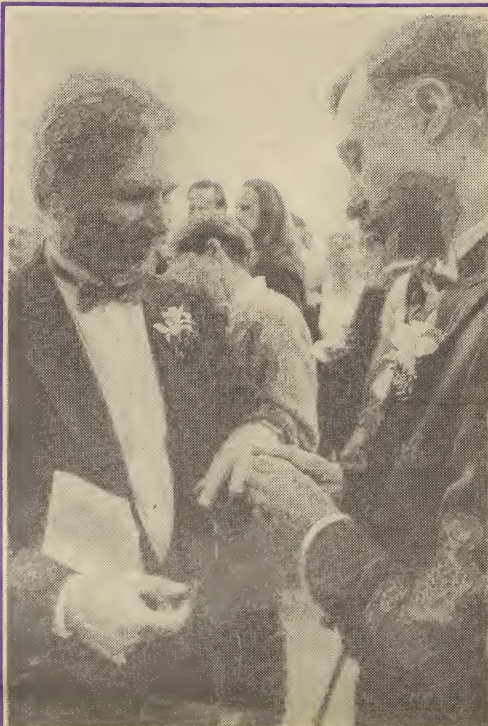


# BAY AREA REPORTER

VOL. XXI NO. 08 FEBRUARY 21, 1991

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## With This Ring

A gay couple exchanges rings at City Hall during the Valentine's Day domestic partners registration kickoff.

(Photo: Rick Gerhart)

## PG&E Targeted Rights Ordinance

by Dennis Conkin

Pacific Gas and Electric Co. tried to have San Francisco's Human Rights Ordinance declared unconstitutional in a civil suit filed late last year, the *Bay Area Reporter* has learned.

The human rights ordinance prohibits employment

discrimination against lesbians and gays in San Francisco.

Cheryl Sena, the attorney for a gay man who has been involved in a two-year lawsuit against PG&E, denounced the public utility's effort as "a disgusting legal tactic and an unconscionable act."

(Continued on page 15)

## Ex-Open Hand Chair: Cash Unaccounted For Atty. General's Office Launches Investigation

by Dennis Conkin and Jeff Boswell

Thousands of dollars in cash contributions raised in gay bars throughout San Francisco to provide meals for people with AIDS are unaccounted for, the former chairman of Project Open Hand's Board of Directors has told the state Attorney General's Office.

Irving Zaretsky has charged that Ruth Brinker, the agency's charismatic founder, failed to keep records for such contributions for the period 1985-1988.

Zaretsky also alleges that as executive director of the agency, Brinker raised funds from foundations for designated purposes but spent them elsewhere.

Specifically, Zaretsky said, funds that were donated for operating expenses such as food purchases were diverted to capital expenditures to pay for plant and equipment and vice versa.

Such co-mingling of funds is a violation of the California Business and Corporation Code and betrays the donor's terms of the grant, Zaretsky said.

The California Attorney General's Office is investigating Project Open Hand based on Zaretsky's complaint. Assistant Attorney General Carole Ritts Kornblum said a preliminary audit was expected to take three weeks.

Lee Weinstein, a spokesman for Open Hand, declined to comment on Zaretsky's charges. A February 1988 audit report of the agency by a certified public accountant indicates the agency received



The sandwich line at Project Open Hand. (Photo: Rick Gerhart)

\$69,000 from contributions and related charities in 1986. In 1987 the agency received \$490,000 in contributions, including funds from telemarketing, special events and related charities.

### A 'Nut Case'

Brinker has dismissed Zaretsky's allegations and called him a "nut case."

"I think that as a gentleman, I ought not to respond to her comment," Zaretsky said. "The issue is one of organizational conduct, not personalities."

Zaretsky's concerns about financial and corporate mismanagement in the agency, which was founded in 1985, are bolstered by a board member who resigned as well as a former employee of the

(Continued on page 16)

## Bequest Raises Questions

by Dennis Conkin

When the state attorney general's charitable trust unit approved the \$225,000 Wolfe Trust bequest to Project Open Hand in October 1988, Assistant Attorney General Carole Kornblum did not know the agency was in trouble.

### Analysis

Just six weeks before, the Irvine Foundation had red-flagged Project Open Hand and refused to pay the second half of a \$200,000 grant to the agency because it had questions about the agency's internal accounting procedures, client statistics and management problems.

The attorney general's office probably did not know that Executive Director Ruth Brinker, unbeknownst to the Open Hand Board of Directors and without authorization, had failed to implement and returned a \$60,000 grant from the San Francisco Junior League that was to provide outreach to minority IV drug users.

Two members of the board resigned when they found that out, and Irving Zaretsky, then Open Hand board chair, alleges that

(Continued on page 17)

## \$1,000 Reward

*Bay Area Reporter* is offering a \$1,000 reward to anyone with information leading to the arrest and conviction of whoever is stealing the *B.A.R.* news racks at 18th & Castro.

### Inside

#### Writers Conference

Patrick Hoctel interviews OUT/Write's Jeffrey Escoffier and Lisa Hall, page 34.

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## Vibrator Sets Off U.S. Postal Workers

by Keith Clark

An otherwise inconspicuous package, wrapped in plain brown paper, set off a near panic at a post office in Palo Alto on Feb. 13 when the seemingly innocent parcel began shaking.

Postal officials, fearing the worst, called in the police bomb squad.

After inspecting the parcel, however, police were able to reassure the rattled postal workers that they had nothing more sinister on their hands than a battery-operated vibrator.

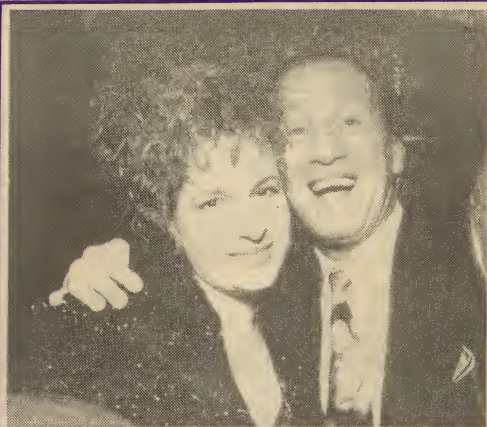
The vibrator had been mailed with the batteries in

place and had somehow gotten turned on.

During the early morning mail-sorting shift at the post office, workers said the package began moving around by itself and making "strange noises," causing them to worry that it was a bomb.

After police had examined the package and reassured the nervous postal workers that it was harmless, the parcel was repacked — with the batteries removed — and it continued its journey to the intended recipient.

Palo Alto postal officials said the package was delivered in time for Valentine's Day. ▼



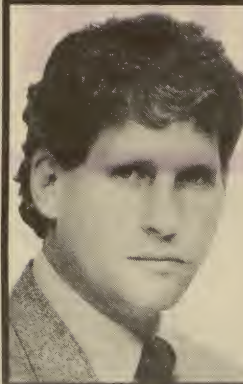
### Debut

Entertainer Jo-Carl and Tom Ammann were introduced as the AIDS Emergency Fund's new co-chairs at the organization's annual dinner Feb. 16 at the Grand Hyatt.

(Photo: Rick Gerhart)



# Bankruptcy



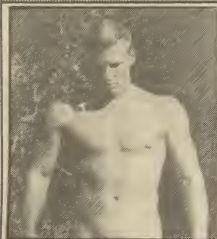
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# Straight vs. Gay: Campus Kiss-In Triggers Riot

by Rex Wockner

A lesbian/gay Valentine's Day kiss-in in a self-service cafeteria at the Chicago campus of the University of Illinois turned into a riot when about 30 apparently non-gay men became disgusted that "fucking homos" and "fucking fags" were "disrupting" their meals.

In the ensuing melee, one apparently non-gay student was arrested for spitting on a lesbian. University police said the student was charged with battery.

When the kiss-in first began, it almost seemed as if the gays and lesbians and the straights were simply putting on a show — the gays and lesbians being exaggeratedly lascivious and the straight men being exaggeratedly grossed-

out and aggressive.

But after the arrest of the non-gay student, the 30 straight men became very angry.

"We're fuckin' trying to fuckin' eat our food here, and these fuckin' homos come in here fucking each other in our faces and then you fuckin' arrest us!" shouted one angry student.

"It ain't fuckin' right! You defending the fuckin' fags. They ain't got no right to fuckin' do this shit," another yelled at the campus police officers.

The officers repeatedly informed the angry men that, in fact, homosexuals are allowed to kiss in public in Illinois.

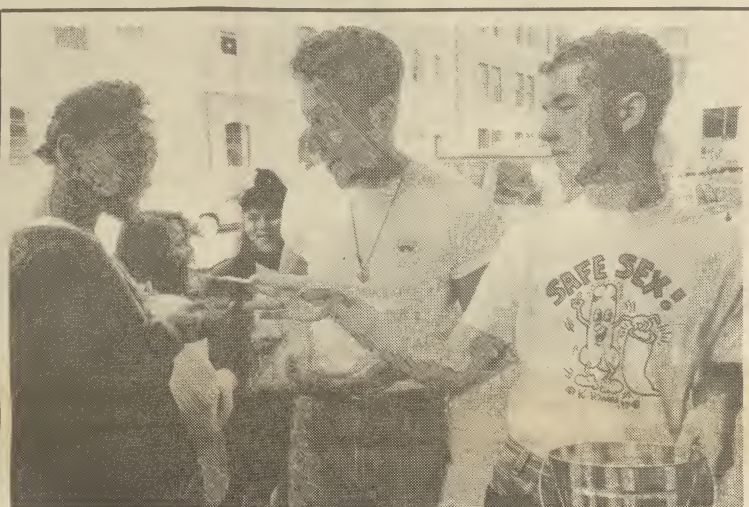
The men were visibly disgusted by this news and argued with at least 10 officers for half an hour.

About 200 students were in the cafeteria at the time of the kiss-in. About half — both men and women — were disgusted by the event, but only the 30 men yelled anti-gay epithets, at one point chanting, "Fags get out!"

Ironically, one of the anti-gay students was wearing a T-shirt featuring the work of the late gay artist Keith Haring, who died of AIDS complications last year.

Members of the UI Lesbian and Gay Alliance said they were frightened by the vehemence of the anti-gay sentiment.

The lesbian who was spat upon, Queer Nation member and UI alumna "Scout," pressed charges and the defendant will appear in court March 7. ▼



## Condom Giveaway

Members of ACT UP distribute condoms to Galileo High School students on National Condom Day. More than 2,500 condoms were passed out at Galileo and Balboa. GAPA, Asian AIDS Project, AIDS Health Project and the SF AIDS Foundation also participated.

(Photo: Rick Gerharth)

# Much Hyped FDA Meeting Disappoints Activists

by Dave Gilden

Local AIDS activists who went to Washington for a meeting of the Food and Drug Administration's Antiviral Advisory Committee returned this week disappointed by the limited accomplishments of the long anticipated meeting.

They also were very annoyed that the media spotlight was grabbed by an obscure and controversial study presented during the meeting's final hours. The study found few benefits from the early administration of AZT.

"Its results were hurriedly prepared to get them ready for presenting to the committee. By making it look like AZT doesn't work, they will turn people away from early intervention and cost lives," charged Joel Thomas of Project Inform.

The study followed 338 male HIVers in Veterans Administration hospital clinics who were divided into two groups, one of which started AZT immediately and another

which was supposed to wait until their helper T cell blood counts fell below 200. While progression to AIDS in the first group slowed, overall mortality was the same in both groups after three years.

The findings suggest that AZT is a drug that can buy a limited amount of time before failing an HIVer completely, leading to rapid immune system decline. This is a possibility that physicians and activists already had considered when pressing for expedited approval of new anti-HIV drugs like ddI and ddC. Such drugs could be used to stave off illness still further once AZT started to fail.

A more unexpected finding was the VA study's observation that African-American and Hispanic HIVers did not slow their progression to AIDS by taking AZT early. The study was not originally designed to compare racial differences, and its lumping together of two distinct non-white racial groups indicated that the problem was social and not medical.

For example, low-quality health care may negate the benefits of early AZT by impairing overall health. Supporting this idea, African-American and Hispanic participants were more likely to be IV drug users, and African-American and Hispanic members of the early intervention group tended to show signs of more advanced HIV infections at the study's outset.

Taking his criticism beyond the race-specific data, Project Inform director Martin Delaney, in a written critique, noted, "The event rate is extraordinarily high, compared to ACTG 016 (the much larger National Institutes of Health-sponsored trial), in which far fewer deaths and progressions to AIDS were seen. This suggests the influence of differences in the patient population, the quality of medical care or other social factors not measured in the study."

Although coming at the end of the committee meeting, the VA report overshadowed

(Continued on page 15)



# Hundreds Tie Knot In City Hall Service

by Dennis Conkin

Young and old, rich and poor, healthy and infirm, in a historic and moving ceremony on Valentine's Day, hundreds of lesbian and gay couples celebrated their unions — and their love for each other — by declaring their domestic partnerships at City Hall.

According to a spokesman for Supervisor Harry Britt, more than 300 lesbian and gay couples and six heterosexual couples registered their relationships with the County Clerk and received certificates of domestic partnerships.

At 4 p.m., following a religious ceremony for interested couples on the steps of City Hall, the couples began a procession down the ornate staircase of the Rotunda to cheers and applause.

Some couples carried babies, and some walked with their children.

One man walked down the stairs holding his lover's hand and a huge teddy bear in his arms. One man threw his bouquet into the crowd.

"Ours is the love that historically dared not speak its name. Today we speak it proudly, and loudly and knowing the commitment we make. The courage of our history is a history of risk taking," Supervisor Harry Britt said during the celebration.

"I'm ecstatic," said Matt Coles, author of the legislation that became Proposition K, the domestic partners measure that passed on last November's ballot by a 54 percent-46 percent margin.

The law allows unmarried couples who live or work in San Francisco to legally register their partnerships in San Francisco.

Community volunteers from a variety of groups were involved in the ceremony, which included remarks by

Superior Court Judge Donna Hitchens, Health Department official Carmen Vasquez, gay School Board member Tom Ammann and others.

"I didn't anticipate the overwhelming feeling of love that our community generates," said Jean Harris, aide to Britt. "We took a risk to put this on the ballot. It was clear from the feeling in City Hall that it was the right thing to do. This is about loving, caring human beings who had to take a risk to just show up and register their relationships. We exist and we're not going back in the closet."

Harris managed the Prop. K campaign. She was elected president of the Harvey Milk Lesbian and Gay Democratic Club last month.

"The next thing is to change the state marriage laws," she said.

A bill is before the state Legislature that would do just that. ▼



A lesbian couple descends the rotunda staircase during domestic partners registration on Valentine's Day.

(Photo: Rick Gerharter)

# Condom Demo Sparks Flap

by Dennis Conkin

The proposed appearance of a former prostitute to give a safe-sex demonstration to Department of Social Services employees during their lunch break has led to a flap.

Her appearance was postponed by DSS Deputy General Manager Claude Finn.

Gloria Lockett, an AIDS educator with an agency that targets sex workers, was to have given a demonstration about putting on condoms without the use of hands, according to Finn.

According to DSS General Manager Julia Lopez, the group never sought approval from anyone at DSS about the demonstration and should have known there would have been a controversy.

The event would have occurred on city property.

According to Finn, other

(Continued on page 12)

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# Major Risk Information Meeting

A free public information meeting on California Major Risk Medical Insurance Program will be held at Davies Medical Center, The Gazebo, Feb. 21 at 7:30 p.m. Representatives from the following sponsors will be present: AIDS Benefit Counselors, Davies Medical Centers and Schmidt & Schmidt Insurance.

The insurance program was established to help those people who were rejected for individual health insurance, terminated by an insurance company, are paying a premium higher than this plan or were denied insurance as a member of a group of five or less.

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## Bashing

The "Lesbian/Gay Bashing in the Media" workshop at the 7th Annual Assembly for Unitarian Universalists for Lesbian/Gay Concerns Convocation, l. to r., John Roszak, Ginger Casey, Hank Plante, Hunter Madsen and Jessea Greenman.

(Photo: Rick Gerhardt)

# Treatment of Gays in Media Addressed at Convocation '91

by Marv. Shaw

A litany of abuses of gays and lesbians by the broadcast and print media was reviewed and the possibilities for improvement discussed at Convocation '91 of the Unitarians for Lesbian and Gay Concerns at First Unitarian Church of San Francisco on Feb. 16.

A panel featuring five well-known gay spokespersons explored the problems of gay representation in the media, exchanged views on the subject, and responded to questions and comments.

The range of concerns included being ignored, observing distortion, battling opposition, negotiating with the media, exerting pressure, promoting positive images, countering boycotts and developing relationships that will pay

off in reliable, factual coverage.

The participants were Hank Plante, KPIX-TV Channel 5 reporter and anchor of the *Noon News*; Ginger Casey and John Roszak of KQED News; Hunter Madsen, co-author of the controversial book *After the Ball*; and Jessea Greenman, co-chair of the SF chapter of the national Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation.

While newsprint and radio were part of the session, most of the attention was directed to television.

Casey, whom the moderator described as a "news goddess" in his introduction, stated, "We deal with language and image."

She went on to explain that, while the words and pictures might change, the attitudes associated with them

might not, using racism as an example of bigotry that might not be much altered.

Nevertheless, changing the content of the message and using better, more accurate means of representation can provide a more reliable basis of knowledge, she said, citing the example of clips from former media coverage, such as the appearance of leather types and drag queens at the gay pride parade, used over and over.

John Roszak told of being sent out to get some SGS ("standard gay shots") in the Castro. Roszak is preparing a documentary on hate crimes to air March 6.

Because of the presence of Casey and Roszak, relations between KQED, the local PBS station, and the gay community came under fire dur-

(Continued on page 30)

## Seminar Explores Gay-Lesbian Split

by Marv. Shaw

The problems of communication and cooperation that lesbians and gay men often have in working together were explored in a seminar called "Gay/Lesbian Dialogue: Hearing One Another."

The seminar was part of Convocation '91, the national convention of the Unitarians for Gay and Lesbian Concerns, held at the First Unitarian Church Feb. 16.

In a panel moderated by KPIX news reporter Hank Plante, two local psychiatrists presented their views on the basis of the difficulties, then a general discussion ensued.

Dr. Sharone Abramowitz of the University of California at San Francisco spoke on how Freudian analysis had eventually resulted in many gay men and lesbians believing that their neuroses were caused by their sexual orientation.

Now, Abramowitz said, alternative therapies are showing that being maligned because of being homosexual is the real cause of mental illnesses associated with gayness.

Abramowitz believes that the recovery of mental health by gay men and lesbians has been fostered by the positive self-image that the progressive gay movement has created.

According to Abramowitz, it would appear that the alienation between gay men and lesbians is traceable to lingering patriarchal attitudes in many men — even gay men.

Lesbians, discovering that they cannot trust men for cooperation without domination, shy away from bonding with them. Testimony from some women in the audience

later in the session confirmed that view.

Dr. Beebe, a Jungian psychiatrist from the University of California Medical School, asserted that C.J. Jung was a "fierce heterosexual."

However, Beebe stated that Jung put forth some insightful theories dealing with the human psyche, which are applicable to human beings of both homo- and heterosexual orientation.

The relevant part of Jung's theories for lesbians and gays is his characterization of the spirituality and sexuality of the two sexes. He posited the female as a celestial mother and the male as a *phalos*, an earthly father.

The source of neurosis for Jung was being cut off from identification with your correct gender. If one can realize a kinship to the celestial or the earthly, both the sexual and spiritual sides of one's nature can be whole and healthy.

The realization of the differences between the two sexes, according to Beebe, can help explain why it is so difficult for gay men and lesbians to communicate and work together.

The discussion that followed ranged from questions seeking to clarify the speakers' assertions through suggested relationships to other matters, such as the mythopoetic formulations of Robert Bly, to comments of the practicality of the theories advanced.

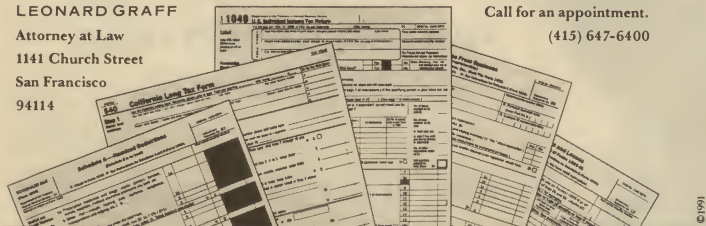
One opinion advanced that seemed to get to the root of the problem was that being a woman was so primary that anything which seemed to compromise that status in any way was to be rejected. ▼

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## Latino AIDS Group

## CURAS 'Comes Out'

by Dave Gilden

This Friday, CURAS, the Comunidad Unida en Respuesta al SIDA, will hold an open house from 6 to 9 p.m. at its office at 347 Dolores St., Room 113.

CURAS is sponsoring the event as an introduction to its AIDS education and counseling activities directed at gay Latinos and the other AIDS service providers who offer them help.

The event will mark a sort of coming out for CURAS as an official non-profit agency. CURAS started four years ago as a grass-roots, volunteer organization based around the 16th Street gay Latino bar scene.

Last June, the group incorporated as a non-profit organization, and in November, it received funding from the city's Public Health Department for working on AIDS with Latino men who have sex with other men.

CURAS now has a professional gay and lesbian staff of

five housed in a large basement room in an old school building that is also home to several other non-profits. The staff is working to solidify the organization's role in the Latino community.

An important step in that process is the group's application for money from the federal Ryan White AIDS Act.

The \$650,000 proposal represents a joint effort by all the community groups involved in fighting the epidemic among Latinos.

Under the proposal, CURAS would be at the center of the network, providing HIV-positive Latinos with case management and referrals to culturally sensitive agencies offering specialized services.

CURAS Director Joe Gonzalez explained why this culturally sensitive approach is necessary.

"Who is more disenfranchised than the Latino community?" he asked, citing language differences, lack of legal residency and a higher in-

(Continued on page 24)



# Family Conference Omits Gays—At First

by Keith Clark

A two-day high-profile national family and parenting conference scheduled for Feb. 23-24 at the Civic Auditorium failed to include any notice of lesbian and gay family topics.

The organizer of the event characterized gay topics as "one small issue."

Family 2000 planners at the National Conferences on Parenting in Santa Clara lined up workshops and panels on everything from a Lucasfilm presentation on "The Classroom of the Future" to exhibitions of family electronics, and bills itself as "the first annual conference on parenting for the 21st century."

But despite increasing media coverage of alternative family issues during the past few years, apparently Family 2000 had decided there was no room for the lesbian and gay family in the next century.

And activists at Queer Nation, initially concerned about the omission, backed away from a protest after organizers offered to include lesbian/gay issues "if we need to."

Marcia Jaffe, who heads the National Conferences on Parenting in Santa Clara, the organization putting on the two-day event, minimized the importance of the omission and offered, a week before

the actual conference, to let people add a workshop.

"What we did with this program initially," Jaffe told the *Bay Area Reporter*, "was to try to come up with general ideas of what are basic concerns, no matter which way you are. If we've overlooked an area that people want to address, that's fine with us to put it on. But I don't have time to go out and make it happen."

"It sounds like (activists) are coming from the position of, hey, you've overlooked this 'major' thing. I consider it one small issue. This is a conference that is not going to satisfy everybody's needs. We can't know about everybody at once."

Jaffe acknowledged, however, that she hadn't contacted any of the city's or state's organizations dealing with lesbian/gay family issues. But she repeatedly emphasized that if people would "come forward and make that happen," the conference could add a workshop on lesbian and gay family and parenting.

"All I can tell you is the whole concept came from a very good place," she said. "It's trying to do something good in the world. If it left out one small aspect of the difficulties of raising kids, then we're more than happy

(Continued on page 31)



## Clean Sweep

Members of the Delta Lambda Phi gay fraternity help clean up Castro Street — a monthly project for the group.

(Photo: Rick Gerharter)

# Gay Golfer Sues SF Country Club

by Dave Gilden

"It was a humiliating experience." This was the reason Tom Shirk gave for suing South San Francisco's California Golf Club of San Francisco after the country club denied him membership. Shirk, owner of Uncle Bert's

Place on 18th Street, was rejected when the club's investigation revealed he ran the popular gay bar.

"We don't want any gay members," Shirk's sponsors told him.

The sponsors, two brothers, had been Shirk's occasional golf partners over the

past four years. He was introduced to the brothers by a straight friend, who, Shirk says, "is on my side. He's just as devastated as I am."

Usually lawsuits of this sort are hard psychologically to pursue.

Smarting from the exclu-

(Continued on page 30)

# Prioritizing Services For Gay Youth

by Kevin Davis

Gay and Lesbian Youth Advocates gathered Feb. 13 to prioritize a list of 60 recommendations for multicultural and multilingual services needed by lesbian and gay youth in San Francisco.

High on the list, which was developed at a meeting of leaders of various social service agencies last month, were a safe place for gay youth to meet, a hotline and compiling a list of lesbian and gay reading material for the public library.

Other priorities included lesbian and gay adult community awareness, the need for school-based services and the special requirements of ethnic minority lesbian and gay youth.

Barbara Blinick, chairperson of the Bay Area Network of Gay and Lesbian Educators and gay youth support services provider for the San Francisco Unified School District, chaired the meeting.

Other participants included Kevin Gogin, also of the SFUSD; East Bay BANGLE member and Project 21 promoter Rob Birle; Delinquency Prevention Commission Director Kristen Bachler; and Mike Shriver, community liaison for 18th Street Services.

Project 21 is the effort to make school textbooks inclusive of lesbian and gay events by the 21st century.

The "safe place" the group proposed was described as a lesbian and gay youth center



Barbara Blinick

focused on recreation as well as counseling and support services.

"We have to concentrate on how to get this and find out what the stumbling blocks have been," said Danny Keenan of Huckleberry House, a residence for runaway youth.

The hotline idea would be modeled on a system employed by gay youth in Seattle.

"They got started with a

(Continued on page 12)

Lesbian and gay youth discuss their lives, coming out and encounters with the lesbian and gay community, Page 33.

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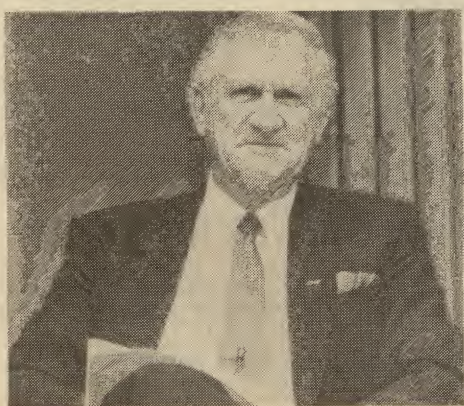
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## EDITORIAL



## Welcome Dannemeyer

**R**ep. William Dannemeyer has announced his candidacy for John Seymour's Senate seat. We wholeheartedly welcome him to the fray.

By challenging the moderately conservative Seymour in the Republican Party's primary, Dannemeyer will force a consensus from California Republicans. It will reveal the true colors of a party that claims to represent the best interests of all Californians.

If Dannemeyer defeats Seymour, it will send a clear message that the California Republican Party embraces homophobia, bigotry and religious fundamentalism in government. If Seymour prevails, the party may not be as much of a fringe group as many liberals might think.

Whoever wins the primary will likely face former San Francisco Mayor Dianne Feinstein in the general election. Feinstein also announced her candidacy this past week. And it appears likely that she may have the Democratic nomination in that race locked up. Most other Democratic hopefuls seem to prefer Sen. Alan Cranston's six-year seat, which will also be open next year. Cranston is not seeking re-election. Whoever wins the two-year seat will have to run again in 1994, making it a tremendously expensive seat to capture. And Feinstein is likely the only Democrat who could raise sufficient funds to mount such an effort.

Dannemeyer has already thrown the homosexual issue into his campaign, branding Seymour as "pro-abortion and pro-homosexual."

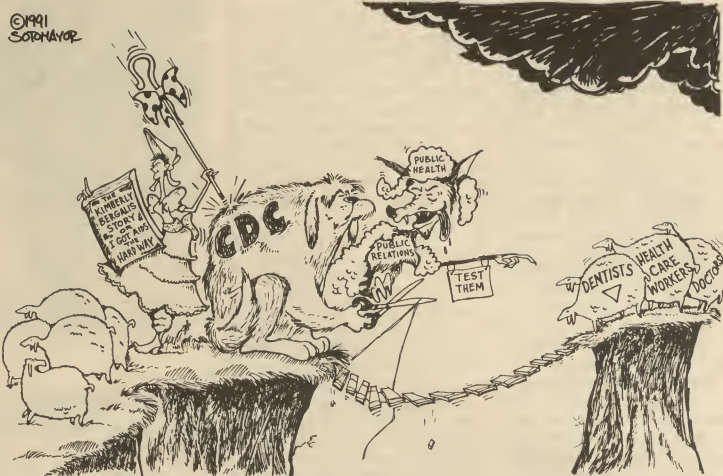
Dannemeyer, one of Congress' most conservative members, said he would run on a platform of traditional family values, of returning the United States to the gold standard and cutting federal spending.

In challenging Seymour, Dannemeyer also is challenging Gov. Pete Wilson, who appointed the 53-year-old former state senator from Anaheim in January to fill out his own term.

Dannemeyer also said Seymour helped sponsor 1988 and 1990 events by the Elections Committee of the County of Orange, which he said was a homosexual organization. He said Seymour accepted a 1988 contribution of \$250 from the group.

Once again a Republican candidate is using the homosexual issue to polarize and inflame voters. Unfortunately, this tactic usually proves all too successful for reactionary candidates. In this instance, however, if Dannemeyer prevails, Feinstein should have little trouble capturing the Senate seat. ▼

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SOTOMAYOR



## GUEST OPINION

## Support for Troops at Home

**R**egardless of our opinion of the Persian Gulf War, there has been much consensus on the importance of acknowledging and supporting our volunteer military men and women for their commitment to service.

However, there is another group of "warriors" right here in our community who could also use some acknowledgment.

The AIDS pandemic, still raging after 11 years, has claimed the lives of more than 7,000 San Franciscans — more than all of the wars put together and most of these in the past several years. Yet there are those who, in spite of incredible exhaustion, the frustration of diminishing ranks and accumulating grief from multiple losses, continue to daily fight to ensure quality care for those affected by this ruthless plague.

Unlike our military commitments, however, there is woefully inadequate financial, technical and moral support for those engaged in the war on AIDS. Like the Vietnam veterans, the "warriors" in the epidemic are frequently shunned by the community at large to protect a false sense of security and distance.

As a health-care provider recently bemoaned, "AIDS is not a dinner table topic in most circles. In a society where 'What do you do?' usually opens conversation, telling about my work with AIDS patients generally ends it!"

For those who serve in the pandemic, the feeling is one of never-ending crisis. Caregivers and service providers tend to continuously operate in "alert" mode, pushing themselves beyond physical and emotional limits, ignoring fatigue and their own needs.

The AIDS crisis, like the Persian Gulf crisis,

is an unpredictable situation that creates a feeling of "helplessness" in those of us whose lives are affected. It is, therefore, appropriate that "empowerment" is the theme of the first Bay Area Conference for AIDS Caregivers to be held March 1 and 2.

The conference, to be held from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. both days at the Conference Center of St. Mary's Cathedral in San Francisco, is sponsored by Kairos House, and is partially funded by the Bay Area Physicians for Human Rights.

The empowerment theme will be carried out through information about the symptoms of burnout, through suggestions and encouragement for self-nurturing, and through acknowledgment and celebration of caregivers for their courage and service that is the foundation of San Francisco's internationally recognized model for AIDS care.

Featured presenter for the conference is Roger Radley, Ph.D., founder/director of New Creation Caregivers Institute in New York, author of more than 20 books, articles and educational programs, consultant to AIDS organizations and a psychotherapist in private practice.

Radley will provide an opportunity for in-depth examination of the tools for effective caregiving that grew out of his three-year study of more than 2,500 caregivers.

Advance registration for the conference is \$20 per day (\$40 for both days). Registration at the door is \$25 per day. To register, mail registration fee with name, address and telephone number to Kairos House, 114 Douglass St., San Francisco, CA 94114, or call 861-0877 for more information. ▼

—John McGrann, Director  
Kairos House

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## LETTERS



### Reinforcing Stereotypes

★ Your story detailing the most recent shopping spree by Queer Nation finally made me run right to my typewriter. I have been fuming quietly for a long time since I first learned from a member about the nebulous goals of this increasingly visible and influential group.

The first few people that I questioned about what Queer Nation represented were not clear about what they stood for, but they were very enthusiastic about being a member and said it was "lots of fun." Upon further inquiry, I began to uncover the clearer picture about the main thrust of this movement which is to force open the eyes of the world to the fact that lesbians and gays are indeed interspersed throughout our society. I am all for this, but I do question some of the misdirected energy and methods that Queer Nation is using.

It really disturbs me when I read that the leader and organizer of the latest community action refers to the people they are supposedly trying to reach as "the enemy." This statement reveals to me the questionable psychology that this group is using and what indeed are the results they are trying to get by offending and shocking people in shopping malls.

We as gay and lesbian people have spent many years convincing all people that we are well-represented throughout the fabric of society and are indeed a responsible part of that society. It has been revealed that we show up in all walks of life and for the most part can be the average boy or girl next door.

Now Queer Nation has decided that just for "fun times out" they are going to do their own version of a public relations job about what gay and lesbian people are and how they look and act. They are going to force people to accept our lifestyles by giving a fashion show representing their version of people they choose, "lipstick lesbians" and "campy queens."

Did they represent the average person that fits none these stereotypes? Hell no, that wouldn't be quite as much "fun" or half as theatrical. These are stereotypes that we have spent decades trying to unravel, and they are being reinforced by Queer Nation without considerations about the results of their actions.

We have fought for years to get the acceptance and freedom that allows you to go out into public places and do your thing. Please use this freedom wisely and productively. We are all in this together. Let us combine and focus our energies on constructive goals, and our successes as a gay and lesbian community will speak for itself and gain acceptance worldwide.

Jim Davis  
San Francisco

### 'Queer' Quagmire

★ In regards to the semantic quagmire of Queer Nation: Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary — queer (kwèr) — 1) differing in some odd way from what is usual or normal, 2) mildly insane, 3) absorbed or interested to an extreme or unreasonable degree, 4) sexual deviate: homosexual, 5) worthless, counterfeit, 6) questionable, suspicious, 7) not quite well.

Webster's Encyclopedic Unabridged Dictionary of the English Language — queer (kwèr) — 1) strange or odd from a conventional viewpoint: unusually different, 2) of questionable nature or character; suspicious; shady, 3) not feeling physically right or well; giddy, faint or qualmish, 4) mentally unbalanced or deranged, 5) slang: (a) homosexual, (b) bad, worthless or counterfeit, 6) to spoil; ruin, 7) to put (a person) in a hopeless or disadvantageous situation as to success, favor, etc.

David Reid  
West Hollywood, CA

### The Return of "Macho Man"?

★ I have a problem with queers. Queers shouldn't exist. The world would be a better, more healthy place without them. By saying this, I don't mean gays and lesbians should cease to exist. I am referring, rather, to the descriptive label, "queer."

This new fad, started or supported in part by Queer Nation, of appropriating the old derogatory term "queer" and using it to label lesbians and gays, though a well-intentioned gesture, is a harmful and misguided practice. The attempt to use "queer" as an appropriated positive descriptive term overlooks an important point. "Queer" is an inherently negative label. It is exceedingly difficult, if not impossible, to invest it with a positive meaning.

Taken directly from the dictionary, "queer" means "of questionable character, suspicious, shady, ... men-

tally unbalanced or deranged ... bad, worthless, counterfeit, ... or freakish." These are qualities that I think no gay man or woman would like to be associated with.

Queers use their label as a distancing technique from straight society. By assuming a negative label, one that connotes an otherness, the foreign, the unusual and the strange, we are not really affirming our uniqueness, but instead are allying ourselves with these negative characteristics. We are sending a mixed message both to ourselves and to straight society.

The negative confusion won't wear off the word. It will be difficult for a new, positive role model of "the proud queer" to come shining through the overly murky and negative definition.

It's probably too late now to stop the current acceptance and use of "queer" as a self-chosen label because it's already grabbed the limelight in gay culture and the media. But I would advocate more considered and careful thought about the language we choose to use and appropriate to describe ourselves in the future.

It is true that these words come and go, are adapted, used and then discarded by society. Hopefully, "queer's" popularity will pass quickly and go the way of "nigger" and "faggot," falling back into disrepute.

We need to start selecting labels with positive, powerful and affirming roots. Then there can be no mistake about our strength and our pride. Whatever happened to "macho man"? Now, there was a great label!

Jason Greenberg  
San Francisco

### Read the Rights

The following letter was sent to Mr. Hamish Maxwell, Board Chairman and CEO, Philip Morris Companies, Inc., 120 Park Ave., NY, NY 10017.

★ Last weekend I accompanied 20 members of the newly formed Research Triangle Park, N.C., chapter of AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power (ACT UP) to demonstrate at the North Carolina stop of the Philip Morris "Bill of Rights Tour." As you know, our continuing demonstrations against the Philip Morris Co. and our continuing boycott of your products (Miller beer and Marlboro cigarettes) are organized to protest your generous funding of Sen. Jesse Helms.

While you sponsor a 50-state tour of the Bill of Rights, you unabashedly fund the U.S. Senate's biggest opponent of the freedoms embedded in that document. Given this inconsistency, perhaps I should not have been as shocked as I was that our demonstration in Raleigh was met by Philip Morris henchmen every step of the way.

Not only did your officials bar us entrance to the opening ceremonies but you videotaped our entire tour of the exhibit. Your company's actions were strikingly similar to the Czechoslovakian secret police, who monitored now President Vaclav Havel's every step when he was protesting civil rights abuses there. However, in Czechoslovakia, the secret police never operated under the pretense of promoting the Bill of Rights.

Some of your guests at the Raleigh exhibit expressed such opinions as: "Thank God for AIDS" and "Jesse Helms showed you queers." Perhaps you also believed that North Carolina lesbians and gay men would succumb to your intimidating videotaping and strong-arm tactics. While it is true that discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and on the basis of HIV status is a serious problem in the state, ACT UP/Research Triangle Park nonetheless seemed more emboldened than frightened by your authoritarian display.

You would do well to treat your \$60 million Bill of Rights Tour as more than just a public relations splash. I'd recommend you start by reading it.

Carl Goodman  
Washington, D.C.

### Intolerable Behavior

The following is a copy of letters written to the members of the Commission for Social and Political Organizations and Mr. Gavril Popov in response to the B.A.R. article, "Soviet Editor Fears for his Safety."

★ This letter is to make you aware that many citizens and groups in the United States are strongly opposed to your anti-homosexual policies and acts. We support the courageous efforts of Soviet activists who are challenging current, yet outdated laws, which oppress at least 10 percent of your population.

All Soviet citizens should have equal opportunity to love and express their sexuality as they choose. Soviet Penal Code Article 121.1 should be repealed. The time has come.

We denounce Alexander Lukeshev's murder and the recent harassment of the gay and lesbian organizations and members. This abhorrent behavior will not be tolerated!

Tanya Schlosser  
Oakland, CA

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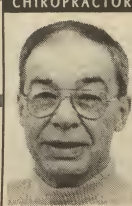
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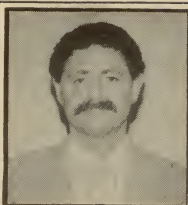
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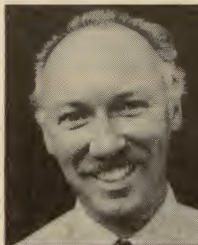
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For further information about inclusion and exclusion criteria for these and other studies, contact: Drew Catapano, HIVCare Client Coordinator, 415-775-4321, ext. 2512. Saint Francis Memorial Hospital, 900 Hyde Street, San Francisco 94109.

## LETTERS

### A Saint to Many

★ The ouster of Ruth Brinker from Project Open Hand fills me with deep sadness and anger. She is not only the founder but the guiding spirit of open-handed generosity who genuinely cares for both the clients and the volunteers of Open Hand.

Your article says Ruth was removed while she was on vacation; the sack lunches that Open Hand used to provide were also removed while she was out of town. Has Project Open Hand become simply another corporation without sensitivity toward its clients?

Our community has a right to know who is running Open Hand now and who is behind the ouster of this gallant lady who has become a saint to many of us. We also need public disclosure of how much the people who now control Open Hand are making in salaries and job prerequisites.

Stephen Bartlett-Re  
San Francisco

### Callous and Unfair

The following letter was sent to Mr. Michael E. Rudder, Chairman of Project Open Hand.

★ The news over the weekend was really disappointing. For the last several years, Ruth Brinker has not only been an inspiration to all of my friends, but a major light in my life. An article that appeared in the Bay Area Reporter was so biased and unfair that I'm taken aback by the lack of the writer's knowledge and your callousness.

In these troubled times, it's so important for people to learn to come together. Ruth has been able to create a unique loving organization that has affected thousands of people. Through your actions, you will be causing a great disruption to this very special cause.

I give my full support to Ruth Brinker because of what she created. She is able to spread so much love daily; it's something all types of businesses need to keep in mind.

Anything you can do to correct this situation would be greatly appreciated by me and all of my friends.

John Vaughan  
San Francisco

### Unalloyed Patriotism

★ So Whitney Houston's rendition of the national anthem sung at the Super Bowl is suddenly being requested on radio stations. A surefire hit single may soon be released. Perhaps I should just be grateful she got all the words right, and maybe I'm out of step with Ms. Houston's legion of fans, but I found the altered arrangement of the melody as forced and artificial as the jingoistic halftime ceremonies that followed.

Yes, there are several arguably better candidates for our national anthem, but the *Banner* since 1931 has been our official song. Not just Mr. (Francis Scott) Key's words of 1814, but the melody that predates it by a century or more. Those who would change it might very well mine the very rich ore of the tune's various earlier iterations over the centuries.

I am reminded of the time the anthem sounded most beautiful to my ears. Rich and I were in Provincetown, Mass., on Independence Day 1983. We had just begun to realize that there was something different about our vacation that season. People around us were acting distant, scared. It was becoming evident to the gay community that it was being stalked by a new epidemic.

We got to watch a small town's parade around midday. Just after dusk, it began to cool off a little. We were up close to the resort when we spied some beautiful aerial fireworks off in the distance. Some of us moved down to the beach for a better view. A group of strangers stood in silhouette, watching the color bursts in the sky. We might have had little in common, except perhaps our growing sense of alienation from one another and from the rest of society. It might have been very easy to have given in to all that.

Then some guy down front began singing, "Oh, say can you see ...?" Some of us may have at first resisted the corniness of the idea. I couldn't have been the only one there who felt too sophisticated to join in. But all of us did sing *The Star Spangled Banner* that July Fourth evening. Some of us sang until our voices broke. When we had finished, we drifted apart as slowly as we had gathered, by ones and twos.

I will not forget the sad and serendipitous illustration of unalloyed patriotism we shared in the sand in the dark. Thinking of it helps me resist the manipulation I sensed last Super Bowl Sunday.

Paul Hufstedler  
San Francisco

### Show Some Respect

The following letter was sent to Gov. Pete Wilson, State Capitol, Sacramento, CA 95814.

★ We are the parents of a gay son, concerned over the lack of respect and recognition the previous administration has had for our gay and lesbian sons and

daughters. I urge the current administration to acknowledge our children as healthy, contributing human beings.

Statistically, one of every four families has a gay member. Gay men and lesbian women are in every cultural, religious, occupational and ethnic group in the world. Kinsey, on the basis of his famous studies of human sexuality, estimates that about 10 percent of the population is homosexual. This means that gay people and their families represent over one-third of the total population.

Both the American Psychiatric Association and the American Psychological Association recognize that homosexuality is not a mental or emotional disorder. Many gay people, like many heterosexual people, establish long-lasting relationships, work, shop, watch TV and pay taxes.

Gay and lesbian men and women have a right to proudly fly their flag at the state Capitol along with other cultural groups. Gay and lesbian men and women have the right to demonstrate peacefully without the intervention of police brutality. Gay and lesbian men and women have the right to be treated with respect — not to have their name blasphemed by this administration and by this administration's choice of insensitive and homophobic entertainers.

First lady, Barbara Bush, in a letter to PFLAG (Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) President, Paulette Goodman said, "I firmly believe that we cannot tolerate discrimination against any individuals or groups in our country. Such treatment always brings with it pain and perpetuates hate and intolerance."

Our son is a vital and active member of this state and country. We urge you and your administration to sit down and talk with lesbians and gays, to provide education on homophobia for your police force and administrators; to put an end to brutality and discrimination based on who a man and woman loves.

We love our son very much as I'm sure you love your children. Please afford him and other gays and lesbians the same respect and recognition you would want your children to have.

Howard and Laura Siegel  
Pacifica, CA

### Unconscionable Profits

★ I was originally going to write you about Kate Bornstein's *Hidden: A Gender*. It is such a fabulous play, and being a lesbian transsexual, it really hit home with searing impact. But, while I was perusing this possible letter, I met an acquaintance who told me about an incident concerning a mutual friend in the AIDS Ward at San Francisco General Hospital that appeared to be unreal.

He said that AIDS patients are charged \$3 per day for rental of television sets that are able to get only four or so of the regular broadcast channels. With all the money and effort that is spent in providing support for the PWAs, it certainly would be wonderful if something could be done to provide them with free television sets — sets that would be permanently installed in the AIDS Ward so that all patients would be able to get TV programs without any charge at all.

That is really not asking for much. I have real problems allowing TV rental companies to make a profit off very sick people who get very little enjoyment of life while in the hospital. TV is critical for people who are sick; to charge them for that is unconscionable.

Billi Goldberg  
San Francisco

### Thanks for Being There

The following is an open letter to the leather community:

★ In August 1990, I underwent a serious back operation for a calcified herniated disk. I was in San Francisco General Hospital for 12 days and bed-ridden for the next six weeks. This event completely wiped out my savings; in addition, I was unable to work at all for approximately 2½ months.

Without the help of The Outcasts, the Society of Janus, the Black Leather Wings contingent of the Radical Faeries, the National Leather Association, various individual members of the leather community, Dr. Erda Sanders and my partner Bill, I do not know how I would have gotten through this very difficult and challenging time.

To all of you who cleaned and rearranged my house; shopped for my groceries; did my laundry; lent me a wheelchair; gave money; gave me a bath; sent cards and flowers; sent information; held my hand; helped Bill; drove me to my doctor appointments after I left the hospital; sent healing thoughts and energy; to the staff of Living in Leather V whose extra efforts in my behalf made it possible for me to attend and to appear on panels; and to the rest of you who did everything else I may have missed — Thank You!

I have never felt so loved, supported, acknowledged, appreciated. I have always known in my heart we are a community, and I now have a very strong experience to support my belief. Let's continue to be there for each other.

Sybil Holiday  
San Francisco



# Feinstein Chooses The 'Short Seat'

The race for the two California U.S. Senate seats officially got under way last week when former San Francisco Mayor Dianne Feinstein, who narrowly lost the governor's race three months ago, formally launched her campaign for the so-called "short seat," the one held by newly-appointed Sen. John Seymour.

Feinstein, a 57-year-old moderate Democrat, filed papers Thursday with the Federal Election Commission, making her an official candidate and enabling her to begin raising campaign funds immediately.

Seymour, the Orange County state senator Republican appointed by Wilson to fill the seat he vacated when he became governor, will have to face voters in a special election next year to fill the final two years of Wilson's unexpired term, and the winner of that race will have to seek re-election again in 1994 for a full term. Feinstein told reporters she was running for the Seymour seat, rather than the six-year seat being vacated next year by retiring Sen. Alan Cranston because she has a better chance of getting her party's nomination without an expensive and divisive primary, and because she is better known statewide than Seymour.

In fact, some Democratic Party officials think Feinstein will win the nomination with no opposition. In contrast, Seymour faces a near-sure bitter primary fight from ultra-conservative Orange County Rep. William Dannemeyer, the House's most anti-gay member.

Dannemeyer says he will run as a strong pro-life advocate and as a committed opponent of gay rights.

Campaign consultant Bill Carrick, who ran Feinstein's campaign for governor last year, will likely direct the Feinstein-for-Senator effort. Carrick said Feinstein's near-win in the November gubernatorial race made her a very strong candidate, and even some Republicans think she would be a very worthy candidate against Seymour.

Carrick said that Seymour is a much less formidable opponent than Wilson for Feinstein.

"Wilson has been around the track a time or two. He was a comfortable old shoe that voters felt at ease with while Seymour is completely new, without much of a track record," Carrick said.

Some political observers in Sacramento were saying this week that Feinstein has to be the early favorite in a one-on-one with Seymour, and the Feinstein camp has already started raising money for the race.

California's other big-name senatorial candidate, former Gov. Jerry Brown, said he would run for the six-year Cranston seat, but name alone might not do it for Brown, who is stepping down from his post as state Democratic Party chair to seek the seat.

Other probable candidates for the Cranston seat include Rep. Mel Levine, a liberal from

Santa Monica who is recognized as one of the Democratic Party's best fundraisers.

Levine, who will hold off a formal announcement for a few months, has already raised nearly \$2 million for the race, while Rep. Robert Matsui of Sacramento, another announced candidate, has raised nearly \$1.5 million. Lt. Gov. Leo McCarthy, state Controller Gray Davis, and Marin Congresswoman Barbara Boxer are expected to become candidates for the Cranston seat as well.

Brown is expected to formally announce his entry into the race at the state party convention in Oakland next month.

## The Gulf War

Just as a California poll was being announced last week that shows Californians' strong support for the Persian Gulf War, Democratic Party Central Committee representatives from Northern California counties met the past weekend in San Francisco and passed a resolution urging an immediate cease-fire in the conflict.

Counties represented included Santa Clara, Alameda, San Mateo, Marin, Sonoma, Contra Costa and San Francisco.

The resolution, written by former San Francisco Chair Agar Jaicks, was approved by a 21-9 vote.

The resolution notes that nearly half of Congress — and two-thirds of Democrats in Congress — urged President Bush to allow more time for economic sanctions before invoking military action and calls for the initiation of negotiations leading to Iraq's withdrawal from Kuwait and the immediate withdrawal of Allied Forces from the Middle East.

This resolution will be presented for consideration by the 2,400 delegates at the Democratic Party state convention in Oakland next month, and many party leaders think it is ill-timed, considering the California Poll that shows 67 percent of Californians think Bush was right in going to war with Iraq when he did on Jan. 16.

The same poll shows that 75 percent think that Saddam Hussein must be removed as president of Iraq; 73 percent think Bush is doing a good job of handling the war; and a whopping 90 percent think the U.S. and its allies will be victorious.

Clearly, the poll shows that once again the Democratic Party in California will be — if the Bay Area counties, represented by their central committees, prevail in getting the resolution passed next month — positioning itself in direct opposition to an overwhelming majority of California voters.

## Cranston's Ethics Rebuke

After weeks of political wrangling, the Senate Ethics Committee has apparently reached a decision that the actions of California Sen. Alan Cranston, on behalf of savings and loan executive Charles Keating, merit a public rebuke by the full Senate.



Dianne Feinstein

While Cranston's "punishment" will merit a vote of the full Senate, the cases of the remaining four of the "Keating Five" will probably mean they will get a letter of some sort criticizing their conduct.

The letter, the mildest step the committee could take against the senators, will not affect their seniority or committee assignments but could probably prove embarrassing in an election campaign.

As for the "rebuke" of Cranston, which will surely pass in the full Senate, the guy probably doesn't give a damn anyway because he gets to keep the hundreds of thousands in "donations" Keating heaped on him, and he isn't running for re-election again this time anyway.

## Politics & People

Lansing, Mich., the state capital, recently passed legislation that will extend sick leave, bereavement and limited health benefits to live-in partners of unmarried city employees.

The Michigan version of domestic partners will be open to heterosexual and gay/lesbian couples who have "genuine adult dependent relationships."

Washington, D.C., humorist Mark Russell was on the tube the other night saying, "War fever is gripping the capital, now that the polls show it's so popular — they're all jumping on the bandwagon." He said, "Even ultra-liberal Sen. Paul Simon is wearing a camouflage-patterned bow tie."

The SF Public Utilities Commission showed unexpected wisdom last week when it voted to kill a hair-brained proposal to allocate \$150,000 for a study that would have considered buying out PG & E so that the city could run it. Screaming "sellout," Supervisor Terence Hallinan, sponsor of this idiotic resolution, said "political power swayed the three PUC members who voted against the idea." What is your next grandiose idea Terence — taking over the city's banks? I mean, like the city doesn't have enough problems already?

Feb. 27 is "D-Day for the Embarcadero," Mayor Agnos says. And none too soon. This double-deck eyesore has been sitting closed since the October 1989 quake, and it should have been down by now.

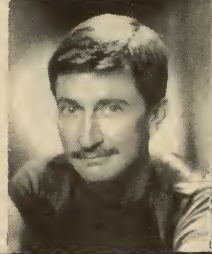
(Continued on page 30)

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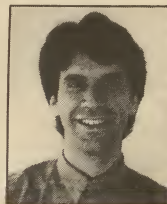
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## MIKE HIPPLER



Eric Rofes, Shanti's executive director.

(Photo: Darlene/PhotoGraphics)

## Shanti's Activities Program

The first time I used the Shanti Project's Activities Program, I felt guilty. I had heard about it—specifically the free ticket service—through my friend Tom; if he felt comfortable accepting ballet tickets when he had little or no interest in dance, then why should I feel otherwise? So I signed up with the program and put in my request for two seats at *The Gospel at Colonus*.

This took nerve, for I was using the tickets to celebrate my boyfriend's birthday. When I approached the window and said, "Two, please, courtesy of Shanti," I thought I was giving new meaning to the word "cheap."

But Tom explained, "Look, Mike. You've got AIDS; you can't work. But you still want to lead a full cultural life. That's exactly why the program exists."

So I accepted the tickets with gratitude and grace—and promptly asked for others. Performances of the Berkeley Rep, *Bar None*, Shirley Valentine and the New York Dance Theater followed in rapid succession.

I soon learned that I am one of many who use the program's services. Joe Lane, the Activities Program coordinator since 1987, explained that the program has a mailing list of 1,400 clients, including more than 450 annual participants. These people take advantage of a wide range of activities; free tickets are only one of the choices available.

The Activities Program began seven years ago when

Bobby Reynolds and several other PWAs active with Shanti sought to involve other PWAs in free arts events, parties, and social outings.

In the beginning, the organizers also placed emphasis on workshop programs such as acupuncture and massage clinics, but through the years, interest in these events declined, and the focus shifted back to artistic and social events.

At first, the intention was to serve people with AIDS or disabling ARC only, but in 1989 the program was expanded to include anyone with symptomatic HIV-infection as well.

At the same time, Shanti placed the Activities Program on an equal footing with its traditional Emotional and Practical Support programs.

Thus firmly entrenched, the program, under Joe Lane's guidance, now offers an ever-increasing number of options. Free tickets are solicited from a number of sources, including theater box office staff, managers and producers—usually for shows that aren't selling out, such as previews, end of run and off-season productions.

"But this doesn't mean that the tickets we get are second-rate," Lane pointed out. "Some of our donors give us the best seats in the house at several days' notice. The level of loyalty they display is extremely gratifying, because the number of requests they receive from other groups is enormous."

Social events are equally

varied. Perhaps the most popular of these, at least in terms of numbers, are the large holiday parties. As many as 400 people plus guests may attend the Christmas or Valentine's Day parties.

A long-standing Activities Program tradition is the weekend get-aways, particularly the semi-annual retreats to Wildwood Resort in Sonoma County. There have also been numerous trips to Disneyland and at least one white-water rafting trip down the American River.

Local, daylong outings attract other clients. Trips to Great America and Marine World/Africa USA are among the most popular of these. PWAs and HIV positives head south to enjoy the Santa Cruz beach boardwalk and the seals at Ano Nuevo, east to kayak on the Bay, and north to ride horses in the Marin Headlands.

The more sedate visit museums, tour houses or attend cooking schools in the city. All of these activities are listed in a monthly newsletter, *PWA UPdate*, which is sent free of charge to all program clients. To sign up for any scheduled activity, or to suggest others, clients simply call the events line and make reservations.

Although many of these events are free, Shanti cannot absorb the cost of them all, so three years ago the project began charging for certain events.

"This was a major decision for us," said Joe Lane. "We

(Continued on page 11)

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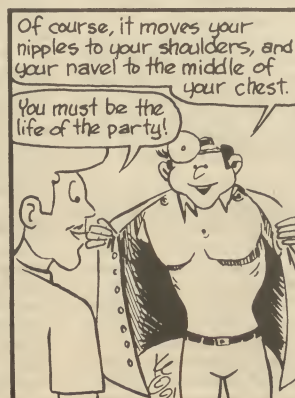
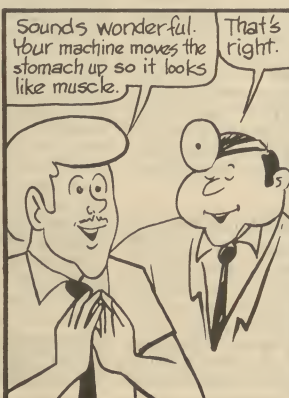
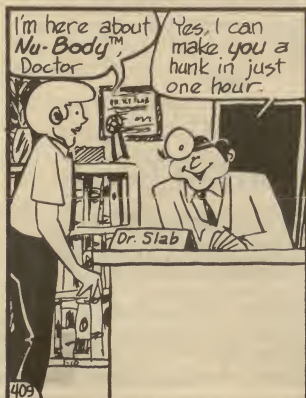
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## MURPHY'S MANOR

by Kurt Erichsen





# The Truth About AIDS Funding

by Pierre Ludington

**T**his year, assuming the Board of Supervisors approves the supplemental budget, city funding for AIDS prevention will increase by \$750,000. It will pay for prevention programs for women and children, IV-drug users, youth and minority populations.

In the past three years, San Francisco is likely the only city in the nation where local AIDS funding has kept pace with the epidemic—with city funds increasing from \$9.6 million to \$19 million. It has allowed us to stay on the cutting edge with such projects as the recent free distribution of 4,000 copies of a San Francisco AIDS Foundation booklet on "Early Care for HIV Disease," which is the same population Supervisor Harry Britt targeted for services with an HIV Early Intervention Center.

Does anyone need to be reminded that these increases happened during the same years when we've faced budget deficits, causing other programs to be cut?

Meanwhile, San Francisco leadership and lobbying has helped increase federal and state AIDS funding. When Mayor Art Agnos took office, state and local AIDS funding was \$14 million; this year it is \$39.4 million. We have just announced \$6.4 million in Ryan White CARE grants

made possible by San Francisco's congressional delegation and lobbying efforts by CBO's and local businesses.

That's far different than the picture presented recently that claimed the city AIDS budget was "slashed."

It helps the community to keep HIV needs on the political agenda; however, it doesn't help if the picture is distorted because then the community rallies to solve the wrong problem, while genuine needs are neglected.

Here's what I think the community needs to consider:

1. San Francisco's response to the HIV epidemic can't be measured with a simple calculation of how much city funds are spent. We've been fighting for state and federal governments to pay more of their fair share. From day one of this epidemic, they've neglected their responsibility and left us to provide the safety net. We did the right thing—but it's time for them to do the right thing as well, and we must put our collective effort to that struggle.

2. Some costs need to be recalculated. The *Bay Area Reporter* recently reported that \$150,000 was cut from "general education programs." Those were the programs begun in 1985 to educate the public that HIV wouldn't be transmitted from drinking cups or sneezing on a bus.

We feared the consequences of those myths on individuals and the city, because then we didn't have either state, federal or San Francisco laws banning discrimination based on HIV. Now we do—and now every public opinion poll shows that the general public is well-educated on how HIV is transmitted.

What we need is to increase funding for targeted populations like youth. The first axiom for those who want to fund needed programs is to stop funding programs which have done their job, and done it well.

3. We need more innovation that involves the private sector. Just as we argued that ending discrimination would save money (people who lose jobs, lose health insurance), we know that other policy initiatives could save money.

San Francisco has established the nation's first "Standard of Care Committee," as recommended last year in the Mayor's Task Force on the HIV Epidemic. It has issued a first set of guidelines on state-of-the-art medical care, and now is urging this standard on private employers, insurers and HMOs.

The result would be earlier intervention and more aggressive treatment—and a better response to individuals and our city.



Pierre Ludington

is that some people will believe that when the epidemic "levels off," we've solved the problem. We haven't. What will have happened is that we will have found that two people dying each day is "acceptable." I don't think it is.

I think that each of us has a responsibility to address that problem (with our volunteer effort, our personal choices, and our money)—which will kill us—and not the false issues that can be floated with sensational news accounts.

There will never be as much money as any of us would like to see to meet this epidemic's issues, or any other major health problem including breast cancer, rising TB rates, the drug-use epidemic, or malnutrition, without national health care.

If anything is predictable, given the recession and war, it is that next year there will be less funding for all programs. That may force us to move to other issues, so far raised but ignored, about whether some of the dozens of community organizations that developed when we lacked a plan now ought to be consolidated to provide better services at less cost.

What worries me as much is that we won't get what we need if people take the easy way of using false yardsticks to measure a battle that only catches their attention so long as it catches headlines. ▼

*Pierre Ludington is a San Francisco Health Commissioner*

## Hippler

(Continued from page 10)

didn't want to charge, but we couldn't afford to send 70 people to Great America. So we asked those who could afford to pay their way to do so. For the others, we instituted a very liberal scholarship program.

"At first, we were afraid that people wouldn't ask for assistance, but they did. As a result, things worked even better than before. The way it is now, basically no one is turned away. We'll do everything we can to get them where they want to be."

Once, Lane admitted, the program did overstep its bounds, perhaps, by offering too much to too few. The program organized a trip to Hawaii that cost almost \$700 a person. No scholarships were offered—"because we couldn't afford to subsidize people who could pay that kind of money anyway," Lane said.

But still he had doubts. "We served our clients' needs by offering them a better rate than they could have gotten on their own. And we also made it possible for them to travel with other PWAs, which gave those who needed it a sense of comfort and reassurance. But the amount of time and energy required to plan the trip was tremendous. I'm not sure we would do it again."

At every program event, clients have the option to bring a friend.

One of the most important aspects of the program is its emphasis on volunteerism.

People with AIDS or ARC are encouraged to stay active "by contributing to others." Specifically, this means by helping to answer office phones, schedule events, coordinate reservations, and the like. By meeting the needs of others, it is hoped, volunteers will enhance the quality of their own lives as well.

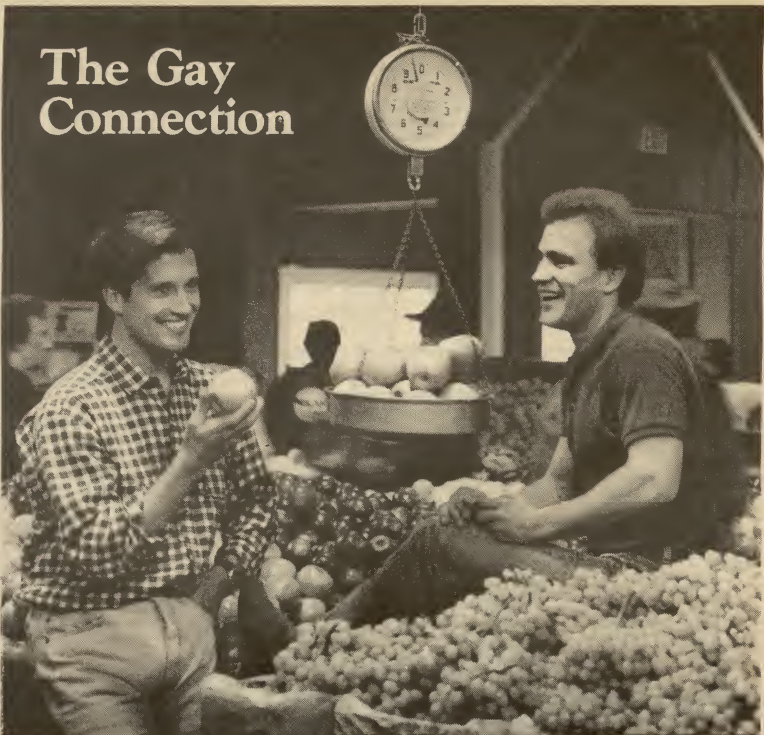
For the future, the Activities Program plans business as usual, with two important changes. One, the staff will begin keeping accurate statistics. *PWA Update* said, "By knowing more about who and how many people with HIV we serve, we can better monitor our successes and note areas of needed improvement, better plan for the future, and give funders the statistical information they require."

Two, the program will expand services to women, children and people of color. No longer will attention be directed primarily to gay white males. The staff will continue to meet their needs, of course, but it will also reach out to other groups to reflect more accurately the ever-changing face of the AIDS/HIV community.

As a gay white male myself, I'm happy to see the program expand to as many clients as possible, for I know how much it has improved my own life. I have yet to use any of the options except the ticket service, but I look forward to covering the joys of cooking school and maybe even bowling. In any event, whatever I do, I will no longer feel cheap for using a program meant for people exactly like me.

As my friend Tom says, "Go for it, girl!" ▼

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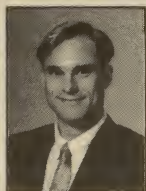
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# Black Gay/Lesbian Leaders Gather at 4th Annual Meeting

by Karen Ocamb

LOS ANGELES — "This is the only time and place you will see what you see now," Michelle Walker told an appreciative audience of black gay and lesbian leaders gathered in Los Angeles for the Fourth Annual National Black Gay and Lesbian Leadership Conference.

Walker, who co-chaired the conference titled "Come Out! Come Home!" with Mitchel El-Mahdy, said "This conference is about taking our lives in our own hands."

The conference activities started Feb. 9 with a series of videos and performances as part of the second annual African American Gay & Lesbian Cultural Festival. It concluded Feb. 18 with a Leadership roundtable.

In between, more than 400 black gays and lesbians attended scores of workshops such as the practical "So you want to run for office?" led by New York Alderman Keith St. John, the nation's first openly gay black elected official, to the difficult "The Black and White of Feminism" or "womanism" as Pat Fowlkes described it.

Some workshops were touchingly honest like "He Loves me, He Loves me not" about relationships between HIV "sero-different" couples.

Black Gay and Lesbian Leadership Forum Co-Chair Ruth Waters set the tone for the conference.

"Before, after and beside love, is respect," she said, introducing Co-Chair Phill Wilson who acknowledged the union troubles at the Hyatt Regency Hotel where the conference was held and, in the



Keith St. John

spirit of coalition, allowed a Union Local 11 representative to address the audience.

New York City's director of the Office of the Lesbian and Gay Community and liaison to Mayor David Dinkins, Dr. Marjorie Hill, delivered the opening plenary address and received a standing ovation.

Despite receiving two death threats and having a cinder block thrown through her car door since taking the job, Hill said her "continuous" coming out is important.

"The more honest I can be about my life, the freer I am. Coming out is the key to our freedom."

St. John's workshop was a blow-by-blow description of how he ran his candidacy for alderman in a district considered to be the "Greenwich Village of Albany." His best advice: pick a good campaign manager and realize that the candidate does not run the show. This, he said, was dif-

ficult — given his penchant for perfectionism.

St. John was also the featured speaker at a Saturday banquet where he emphasized the need to "come back home to our institutions and people," and "seize control of the history we are making today so we can be worthy of honor."

Several awards were also given out during the banquet. Debra L. Johnson and Sandra Tignor received the Mabel Hampton award.

"Mabel Hampton led the way for us," said Tignor. "She was with one woman for 40 years and walked down the streets of Harlem holding hands with her lover in the 1930s and 1940s."

Charles Stewart received the 1991 Founders Award presented by Phill Wilson and Dr. Hill received the Bayard Rustin award.

Also honored during the conference were poet Michelle Parkerson, filmmaker Marlon Riggs and the Bay Area NIA Collective.

The Minority AIDS Project received \$1,200 and Rue's House (for women and children with AIDS) received \$1,700 presented by Conference Board member Bill Meredith.

U.S. Rep. Maxine Waters (D-Calif.), whom Wilson described as a "shining example of a woman of courage" who has "been there for us," received the 1991 Frederick Garnett AIDS Activism Award. Waters received a rousing laugh by characterizing Congressman and newly-announced Republican Senate-candidate William Dannemeyer as a "neanderthal." ▼

## Youth

(Continued from page 5)

block grant of \$50,000," Blinick said of the hotline. "They received 800 calls in their first two months."

Thomas Tavis, who works at the main branch library, has taken the lead in working for easily accessible lesbian and gay reading material in libraries, with a reading list which identifies the author as gay.

The works will pertain to lesbian and gay issues and concerns or works of fiction about lesbian and gay people. The list will be available in March.

The participants sought recognition of the increased vulnerability of gay male youth for HIVSTD infection and development of ways to protect gay and lesbian youth from violence, substance abuse and sexual abuse.

Speaking on the problems of street youth, Michael Baxter of the Youth Guidance Center, said, "There is no great education of merchants about street youth populations."

Baxter called for increased sensitivity from that sector.

"Street outreach workers who work with prostitutes don't target gay youth specifically," Shriver said, stressing the need for a residential

treatment program for lesbian and gay youth substance abusers.

Keenan said, "The issue of parental permission for access to services is a big housing issue."

On the suggestion that openly gay teachers provide role models, Blinick said, "It depends on the school as to whether the teachers are out. They need to be multicultural, too."

Rob Birle added, "If faculty know their rights, they'll be more likely to come out."

This led to the recommendation for a clearly stated and strictly enforced anti-slur policy. The policy as it works in San Francisco schools, Blinick said, is that "if a student calls another a 'fag,' then he gets warned. If it happens again, then he faces detention. And a third time, he's supposed to get suspended. But I don't know of a single instance where this has happened. We need an enforcement and publicity campaign to let teachers and students know this policy exists."

Hank Wilson, also of Project 21, added, "A child is afraid to even tell another that it's wrong to say 'fag' because it'll be obvious he is one; the fear and homophobia are that deep. We also have to train them about non-discrimination laws so they know they don't have to take any

shit."

Blinick concluded that the group would decide what to focus on at the next meeting, March 7.

"We can take one or two recommendations to members of the Board of Supervisors like Carole Migden or Harry Britt and other public officials and say, 'This is a major issue for us,'" Blinick said. ▼

## DSS

(Continued from page 3)

employee events for Black History Month have occurred without incident and were not postponed.

Members of the DSS 1440 Harrison African American Focus Group have protested what they call the cancellation of the event.

According to the group, organizers of the event offered to pass out fliers at the door of the event informing attendees that there would be a very graphic demonstration of safe-sex techniques.

"AIDS is an emergency and we need to get busy informing people how to take care of themselves. There really is not time for getting permission from you and Julia Lopez," the group told Finn. ▼



# Hate Crimes Unit Launched in Capital

by Marghe Covino

SACRAMENTO — Sacramento District Attorney Steve White has set up a special Hate Crimes Unit in his office to implement 1988 hate crimes legislation penalties.

White assigned Deputy District Attorney Anna Bravo, 35, to head up the unit which also has an investigator who will actively investigate any complaints or reports that fall into the hate crimes category.

Bravo is a native of Oxford, and attended law school at U.C. Davis. She is a resident of Sacramento, married and the mother of three.

Until recently, Bravo has been in a special investigations unit that prosecutes peace officers, white-collar criminals, attorneys, judges and those accused of political corruption.

In response to questions about recent allegations of excessive force by police and sheriff's officers, Bravo said, "The wording in Section 422.6 of the Penal Code is clear — and it states that regardless of whether an action is taken 'under the color of law,' no one shall by force, or threat of force, willfully injure, intimidate or interfere with or oppress any other person in the free exercise or enjoyment of their rights or privileges guaranteed in the laws of this state or in the United States Constitution.

"I believe in that. I believe that people should not be sub-

ject to any form of harassment from anyone because of their race, color, religion, ancestry or sexual orientation, and this unit is ready to inves-

**"Bravo's unit will investigate complaints brought to it by citizens who believe they were attacked or harassed ..."**

tigate those complaints and cases."

Unlike the Sacramento City Police Department, which requires some act like name-calling by the perpetrator before the crime is classified a hate crime, Bravo's unit will investigate complaints brought to it by citizens who believe or suspect they were attacked or harassed only because of their race, religion, color, ancestry, national origin or sexual orientation.

Sacramento's Lambda Community Center, under the direction of its new executive director, former San Francisco Donna Yutz, is in the process of setting up a system in which crimes reported to the Community Center will be referred to Bravo's office. ▼



## Meeting Place

Sacramento's Lambda Community Center is a focal point of the capital city's homosexual community. (Photo: Rick Gerhardt)

# Gay PAC to Spend \$1 Million In 1992 Political Campaigns

by Karen Ocamb

LOS ANGELES — The Human Rights Campaign Fund, a national gay and lesbian bipartisan political organization based in Washington, D.C., will raise one million dollars to spend on federal election campaigns next year. The announcement came from HRCF Board of Directors Co-Chair Randy Klose following the HRCF board meeting Feb. 15-17 at the Beverly Plaza Hotel in Los Angeles.

Last year HRCF gave more than \$525,000 to Republican and Democratic candidates for Congress who supported gay and lesbian issues.

For instance, as a political action committee (PAC), HRCF contributed to Harvey Gantt's effort to unseat Jesse Helms in the much-publicized North Carolina Senate race.

Additionally, many individual HRCF members contributed time and money to the campaign both in North Carolina and through private fundraising in gay communities around the country. Many others did voter education and registration drives.

The Gantt-Helms race initiated many political novices in the gay and lesbian community into mainstream political action. Klose and HRCF Executive Director Tim McFeely believe the flashpoint next year will be the Republican primary pitting California governor-appointee John Seymour against the virulently anti-gay U.S. Rep. William Dannemeyer from Orange County.

Klose, who personally gave more than \$100,000 to help defeat Helms, said that he is "thrilled" that Dannemeyer

relinquished his seat in Congress to run for the Senate. "HRCF will be doing everything it can to make sure that Dannemeyer does not return to Washington in any capacity." Klose hopes that this race will "be the end of Dannemeyer's political career."

McFeely, who has watched him operate in Washington, D.C., cautioned not to underestimate Dannemeyer. "We have to fight real hard, not only to beat him but to bury him." The right wing is looking for a leader right now, McFeely said, and Dannemeyer is a very smart man who knows exactly what he's doing.

Though Dannemeyer is an HRCF target for defeat, Klose cautions that the board has not yet voted to endorse Seymour or any other candidate. ▼

## State Briefs

### Dannemeyer Seeks Seymour's Seat

SACRAMENTO (UPI) — Rep. William Dannemeyer announced Feb. 18 he will run for U.S. Senate in the Republican primary next year, challenging appointed Sen. John Seymour, who he branded "pro-abortion and pro-homosexual." Dannemeyer, one of Congress's most conservative members, said he would run on a platform of traditional family values, of returning the United States to the gold standard and cutting federal spending. In challenging Seymour, Dannemeyer also is challenging Gov. Pete Wilson, who appointed the 53-year-old former state senator from Anaheim in January to fill out his own term. Seymour's seat is one of two being contested in 1992. The winner will have to face the voters again in 1994, when Wilson's six-year term would have expired. The other race is to decide who replaces retiring Democrat Alan Cranston for a full six-year term. Dannemeyer wasted no time attacking Seymour, who he said had helped sponsor 1988 and 1990 events by the Elections Committee of the County of Orange, which he said was a homosexual organization. He said Seymour accepted a 1988 contribution of \$250 from the group.

### 73 Percent of Urbanites Recycling

LOS ANGELES (UPI) — About 73 percent of Californians living in the state's major urban areas say they regularly separate their garbage for recycling even if not required to do so, an industry survey reports. The survey, taken last month and sponsored by Du Pont Co., also found 45 percent of the respondents said they would be willing to pay additional taxes to receive curbside pickup of their recyclables. Lower-income people are much more supportive of such a tax. The survey found 58 percent of those earning between \$15,000 and \$29,000 a year were willing to pay additional taxes to receive curbside pickup, compared to 44 percent with household incomes of \$30,000 or more. The survey was based on a random sampling of 602 people in Los Angeles, Orange, Sacramento, San Bernardino and San Diego counties and in the San Francisco Bay area. Nearly 70 percent of the respondents said more should be done to recycle plastics, while some 66 percent believe aluminum is being recycled in large enough quantities to have an impact on the nation's solid waste problem. The survey also showed that nearly 70 percent said their communities offer recycling centers. Among the 27 percent who said they do not recycle, about half told pollsters that recycling is inconvenient or too much trouble.

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## Golfer

(Continued from page 5)

sion, the person involved usually feels embarrassed and tries to bow out quietly, without publicizing the incident. But Tom Shirk has had plenty of support in golfing circles for his lifestyle.

"I belong to a traveling golf club with about 30 members," he said. "They all know my sexual orientation. I even bring my lover along sometimes. There's never been any problems." And one of Shirk's golf buddies has related to him that he was denied

membership at the same club 15 years ago because he was Jewish.

Shirk's lawyer, Julian Las-towski, says that his client is "very interested in pursuing this case to the fullest extent of the law."

The case sets some new legal ground in that previously California's Unruh Civil Rights Act has been found applicable to country clubs as well as to discrimination involving sexual orientation, but the two have never been put together. This case would establish that country clubs, like other groups, cannot automatically blackball lesbians and gay men. ▼

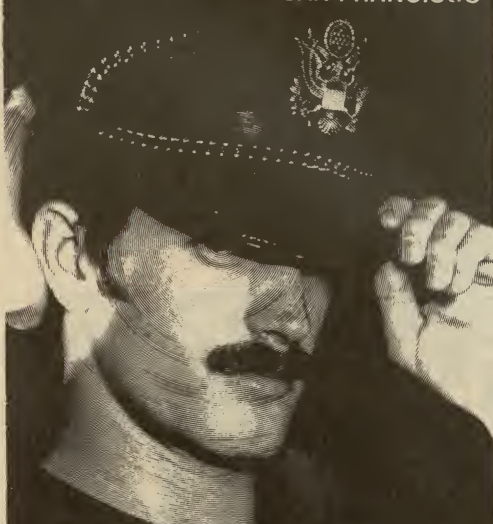
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## AIDS NEWS

# AIDS Drug AZT at Center Of Racial Controversy

United Press International

A new study indicates that early treatment of HIV-infected individuals with AZT slows progress of the disease in whites but is less effective and sometimes harmful to blacks and Hispanics.

The *Wall Street Journal* reported Feb. 14 that John Hamilton, a physician at Duke University, found that of 338 persons with AIDS or AIDS-related complex studied in Veterans Administration hospitals, white patients benefited from early AZT treatment while blacks and Hispanics did no better and sometimes worse.

AIDS experts warned that the study, which was not designed as a study of the effects of AZT on different racial groups, could be flawed, the *Wall Street Journal* reported.

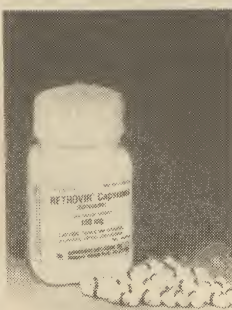
Meanwhile, another recently published study suggests AIDS patients who are women, minorities, intravenous drug users and uninsured are far less likely to be offered treatment with the groundbreaking drug AZT.

Researchers at Rhode Island Hospital and Brown University interviewed 880 AIDS patients in nine cities and found that men were three times more likely than women to be offered AZT.

They also found:

— Insured patients were twice as likely to be offered the treatment than uninsured ones, even in states where AZT can be free to uninsured patients.

— White patients were 73



percent more likely than non-white patients to be offered AZT treatment.

— And patients who are not intravenous drug users are more than twice as likely to be offered AZT as those who are.

AZT is the only approved drug for treating and preventing AIDS-related infection. While it does not cure AIDS patients, the expensive treatment does help them live longer.

The study appeared last month in the *Journal of General Internal Medicine*.

Co-author Michael Stein, director of the AIDS clinic at Rhode Island Hospital, said Feb. 14 that the disparity in the way doctors offer AZT treatment "suggests there is a problem."

The study did not delve into why certain AIDS patients were not given AZT treatment and others were.

Stein said there were good

reasons for not prescribing AZT in some cases, but added that there are times when doctors may be exercising a bias against certain groups.

For example, a doctor might decide against giving a woman AZT out of fear she could become pregnant, Stein said.

The effect of AZT on a pregnancy has yet to be analyzed fully, he said.

Also, a doctor may fear an intravenous drug user will fail to take AZT regularly, which could have serious side effects, said Dr. Tom Wachtel, a co-author of the study and the director of primary care at the hospital.

Wachtel said, however, there is research that suggests many intravenous drug users take their AZT as prescribed.

Some doctors may be unaware that their patients could be eligible for a special program that would cover the costs of their AZT treatment, the researchers said.

Stein said he hoped the study would convince physicians to think hard about the manner in which they offer AZT, and reflect on any biases they may carry. He said it would be difficult for government to regulate "private encounters" between doctors and patients.

The study was based on interviews with AIDS patients in Fort Lauderdale and Miami, Fla.; New Orleans; Seattle; Nassau County, N.Y.; Newark and Jersey City, N.J.; and the small Texas community of Atlanta. ▼

## Black Gays, Lesbians Blast VA AZT Study

by Karen Ocamo

LOS ANGELES — Congresswoman Maxine Waters (D-Calif.) has blasted a new study released by the Veterans Administration that concluded that early treatment with the HIV drug AZT is not as effective for African-Americans and Latino men as it is for Caucasians.

Waters expressed concern that the study might discourage blacks and Latinos from taking or seeking AZT — the only drug therapy officially approved by the Food & Drug Administration.

Waters made her remarks Feb. 17, while addressing a luncheon crowd of about 80 black gay and lesbian AIDS experts and service providers as part of the National Black Gay and Lesbian Leadership Conference held Feb. 9-18 in Los Angeles.

The Department of Veteran Affairs report looked at the efficacy of AZT treatment when used by patients who had symptoms of HIV disease but had not yet progressed to a full-blown AIDS diagnosis. They compared early use of AZT with later AZT treatment in both white and minority patients.

Though the study showed

that AZT worked overall in slowing the progression of the disease, the study results showed that 22 percent of blacks and Latinos in early treatment developed AIDS or died, compared to 22 percent who received later treatment.

Because there was no significant difference in the percentages, they concluded that there is no real benefit to early treatment with AZT for blacks and Latino men.

In her remarks, Waters cautiously dismissed the study, noting that the Veterans Administration "has never been in the forefront of any legitimate research." She also said the timing was "strange" for the study's release. "When I look at a treatment that is being denied to some folks based on their inability to pay and where they live and their circumstances (and) when they say, 'Well, you know you don't react too well anyway, I'm real suspicious.'"

Phill Wilson, AIDS coordinator of the city of Los Angeles and co-chair of the Black Gay and Lesbian Leadership Forum also expressed a degree of "paranoia."

Wilson indicated that in California under the Ryan White CARE Bill, the amount of money allocated for AZT drug

subsidies will expire in May.

Rep. Waters, who is on a congressional sub-committee that oversees the VA, urged BGLLF to come up with a proposal and demand a meeting in Washington with the Veterans Administration to explain their study. Waters pledged "to take whatever action is necessary" to make sure the meeting happens.

The day before Waters' remarks, several national black gay/lesbian AIDS experts held a news conference denouncing the study. They said that while they wanted to see more race and gender specific research, this study was small, inconclusive and incomplete.

The VA did not provide any support documentation, their survey was never intended as a race specific study and the research methodology changed throughout the study, the AIDS experts charged.

Additionally, Brandy Moore, chair of the San Francisco Black Coalition on AIDS, charged that 50 percent of those who participated in the survey did not use the AZT medication properly. He said the study "cripples" the work they are doing.

Pat Norman, executive director of the California AIDS Intervention Training Center and one of the first persons to work with HIV disease in 1981, noted that the study totally excludes women, the highest rising population coming down with HIV. ▼



# ACT UP Targets Argentine Embassy

by Cliff O'Neill

WASHINGTON—A handful of picketers from ACT UP/D.C. staged a small demonstration in front of the Argentine Embassy Feb. 5, kicking off what they hope will be a nationwide effort to press the Buenos Aires government to recognize a gay rights organization there.

Carrying signs reading, "Stop Gay Bashing in Argentina," in English and others in Spanish saying, "The Free Expression of Sexuality Is a Human Right," the 12 lunchtime demonstrators chanted at curious embassy workers and handed informational fliers to passers-by.

For several months, gay activists in the South American nation have reported that the Argentine government has been routinely harassing lesbians and gay men, arresting them on prostitution charges, holding them without charge and, in some cases, torturing them.

An Argentine gay and lesbian rights group, Comunidad Homosexual Argentina, which has sought to remedy the situation, was recently ruled ineligible for legal recognition by an Argentinean court.

The ruling, which is being appealed to the nation's Supreme Court, bars the group from soliciting funds, conducting AIDS education programs and renting space. If the Supreme Court fails to overturn the lower court ruling, the decision may be appealed to an international court in Costa Rica.

CHA leaders have also reported to an American journalist that a Buenos Aires newspaper recently published the names and addresses of the group's organizers, which has led to the termination of most, if not all of them, from their jobs.

Since the onset of the alleged police actions, CHA leaders have been issuing pleas for funds and public support to international gay and lesbian groups.

The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force has written to Argentine President Carlos Menem, the U.S. State De-

partment and Amnesty International concerning the court's decision and the alleged harassment of CHA's leaders.

Task Force spokesperson Robert Bray reports that his group has not received any response on the Argentinean issue.

"The response from the establishment hierarchy has been minimal if not nonexistent," said Bray.

"I think it's absolutely necessary that we confront brutality, inhumanity and dictatorship wherever it occurs," said demonstrator Barrett Brick, executive director of the World Congress of Gay and Lesbian Jewish Organizations. "I think it's perfectly appropriate for us to confront brutality and oppose tyranny, whether it's in Iraq or in Argentina."

Leaders of the demonstration, while conceding that the action was small, hope that the event will mark the beginning of U.S. involvement in bringing international pressure to bear on Argentina, drawing parallels to U.S. activism pressuring South Africa over its policies of apartheid.

"We hope this puts international pressure on the Argentine government," said Margaret Cantrell, ACT UP/D.C. member. "We hope gay and lesbian groups in this country will do what they can to embarrass the (Argentine) government into doing the right thing."

Cantrell stated that the U.S. effort on the Argentine gay issue, which included a larger, simultaneous demonstration at the country's New York consulate, has not yet made any overtures to United Nations' organizations or to Amnesty International, an multi-national human rights watchdog group.

Amnesty, Cantrell suggested, has little interest in pursuing human rights abuses based on sexual orientation. Most of the international action focusing on CHA's dilemma has been organized by the group's leaders in Buenos Aires and the International Lesbian and Gay Association. ▼

Sechan also told the Bay Area Reporter that Rosput was "bothered" when she discovered that Sechan was a Shanti Project volunteer.

The utility's action drew heated response from Supervisor Roberta Achtenberg.

"There's no question that the human rights ordinance is strictly constitutional. It was drafted with care and expertise and its constitutionality has been upheld by the courts," Achtenberg said. "No individual or business can expect to be taken seriously in challenging the ordinance."

PG&E has since dropped the effort to have the ordinance declared unconstitutional, a spokesman said.

Lawyers for PG&E who tried to void the protections are Maureen L. Fries and Iathan T. Annand. ▼

## FDA

(Continued from page 2)

owed the real purpose of the gathering.

The panel had been convened with the specific intention of examining ways to accelerate drug trials of anti-HIV agents. Pressure from ACT UP, Project Inform and other groups had built up to base tests on "surrogate markers," which can be measured at any time to detect immune system deterioration.

Traditionally, AIDS drugs have had to undergo several years of testing to see whether significant changes in death rate would occur. Prolonged survival has been the only way to definitely establish a drug's value.

In recent months, the debate has centered around the two AZT cousins, ddI and ddC.

Just last week, the American Foundation for AIDS Research cited "the urgent need to bring new anti-retrovirals to market for use as alternatives or complements to AZT" as its reason for appealing to the FDA "to reach the swiftest possible decisions on ddI and ddC."

The FDA advisory committee took a very conservative stand on the surrogate marker issue, recommending only that helper T-cell blood levels be adopted as a valid measure of a medication's success.

Helper T-cells are that component of the immune system devastated by AIDS. Loss of this cell population is characteristic of the disease.



Martin Delaney

Reviewing the statistical summaries presented to it, the antiviral panel officially recognized that increasing the helper T-cell count was strongly linked to longer survivability, with counts below 50 per milliliter causing much higher death rates.

"They argued all day long, but this is something the community has known for years," Thomas observed.

Other, more speculative markers, such as blood concentrations of HIV particles or the protein beta-2 mi-

croglobulin, did not get the seal of approval. Last month, a review carried out by UCSF researchers indicated that one past study of AZT could have been completed in several months rather than several years had beta-2 microglobulin and helper T-cell levels together replaced survival time as the indicator of drug effectiveness.

The recommendation now goes to the FDA for elaboration. Officials say a complete proposal will be ready around April 1. It will then be subject to 30 days of internal review, after which it goes to the Federal Register for publication and 60 days of public comment.

The whole process could take six to nine months. At the same time, rumors are circulating that ddC's licensing application has been put off until more data is in and that ddI's application will only request approval on the narrowest of grounds — for children and people with AIDS who are doing poorly on AZT.

These are disappointing results, especially considering that under pressure from AIDS groups, the FDA has opened its proceedings to the public as never before.

"We just need more lobbying in Washington," commented disgruntled SF AIDS activist Jim Driscoll. "It's a disgrace and a shame given the wealth of the gay and lesbian community that we have so few people there whereas obscure trade associations spend millions." ▼



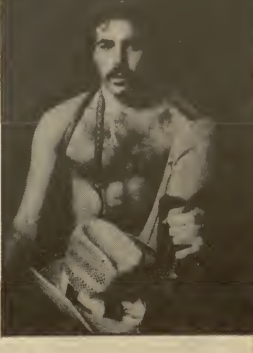
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## PG&E

(Continued from page 1)

Attorneys for PG&E filed a motion to have the ordinance tossed out in September 1990 as part of a response to a sexual orientation discrimination lawsuit filed against the firm by Neal Sechan, 40, a supervisor who was employed at the agency for eight years.

Sechan said his termination followed anti-gay harassment by Paula Rosput, a PG&E supervisor.

Rosput is now a vice president of Pacific Gas and Transmission Co.

In the lawsuit, Sechan said that Rosput made homophobic comments about gay employees and "made life miserable for other gay employees" in Rosput's unit. One gay employee was demoted, Sechan said.



# Project Open Hand

(Continued from page 1)

agency.

Marie Simpson resigned from the agency's board in August 1988, the same month Zaretsky was thrown off the board.

Simpson resigned, along with another member, after she learned that Brinker, without authorization, had failed to implement and then returned a \$60,000 grant from the San Francisco Junior League to provide meals to minority IV-drug users.

According to Zaretsky, Brinker returned the grant because, as part of the grant, league volunteers were to have assisted the program and she did not want them present because they might become aware of irregularities in the program.

Officially, Zaretsky said, Brinker said she returned the grant because the kitchen could not produce the amount of meals called for in the grant.

"Project Open Hand is conceptually a wonderful program and meets a desperate need in our community," Simpson's letter of resignation said. "However, during the past several months, the program as a result of your actions has suffered serious managerial and fiscal problems. Your failure to address these issues has placed the program in jeopardy and thereby prompted my resignation."

Simpson, then executive director of a Peninsula non-profit agency, said that she "felt free to go to the Attorney General's Office to ask

for an investigation" of the agency, according to an addendum of August 1988 board minutes.

She told the *Bay Area Reporter* that it was unfair to brand Zaretsky as a "troublemaker."

Under California non-profit corporation law, an executive director is an employee of the agency hired by and

**"Brinker thought of Open Hand as her own baby."**

—Irving Zaretsky, former Open Hand board chair

responsible to the board of directors. The board is responsible to the public and to state and federal oversight agencies.

## Board Ignored

According to Zaretsky, Brinker repeatedly refused to implement board decisions.

In one instance, Zaretsky said, Open Hand's chef was asked to appear before the

board, but Brinker told him that he didn't have to.

"Brinker thought of Open Hand as her own baby," Zaretsky said. "Her philosophy was 'Why do I need a board? This is my program and I'll do as I please.'"

Ignoring the board's directives was "a violation of ordinary business practices and non-profit corporate law," Zaretsky said.

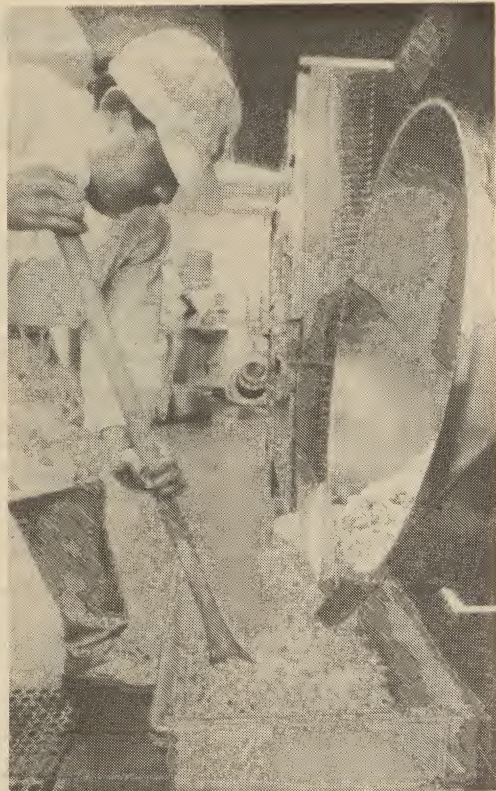
He said he became aware in spring 1988 that the Open Hand board did not have fundraising records, including receipts for cash contributions or even a calendar list of all the fundraisers that were held in gay bars and elsewhere for the agency for the years 1985-1988.

"Mrs. Brinker did not supply the certified public accountant and the board complete records of revenue for that period. There was a checking account, there were bank accounts, the issue was not checks, but deposits. Where are they? We have no records that would tell us exactly how much money was being collected, by whom and for what purpose," he said.

Zaretsky said that he became alerted to the problem "in a strange way" when he discovered Brinker had failed to leave the cash collected in the office safe after one event but took it home.

Brinker took the cash home for safe-keeping, Zaretsky said.

"It presented the problem we had previously with her — receipts. The certified public accountant tried to establish normal operating procedures. There were never any receipts given by Ruth to the organizers or the agency's board for the funds that were given to her," Zaretsky said.



A chef mixes hot pasta in the Project Open Hand kitchen.

(Photo: Rick Gerhardt)

"There are deposit records for cash but no one was able to determine the origins of the cash."

In March 1988 the certified public accountant who wrote the audit reports informed the Open Hand board that "accounting for special events and telefundraising were particularly out of control."

The accountant issued more than a dozen recommendations to the board including stringent controls on cash and check-writing procedures.

## Two Signatures

The board told Brinker to stop writing blank checks and that all checks over \$250 required two signatures.

According to Zaretsky, the board directed that check's signed by Brinker have a countersignature. The move, he said, followed discovery by the board that Brinker was issuing checks without receipts and signing contracts without board authorization.

Copies of checks signed by Brinker obtained by the *Bay Area Reporter* reveal that the board directive was ignored.

Naomi Tillson, Brinker's former personal assistant at Open Hand, eventually kept the books for the agency. She believes that not all cash contributions from fundraisers were accounted for.

"Receipts were never attached to deposits. It's a standard business practice that when you receive cash, you give out receipts," Tillson told the *Bay Area Reporter*.

Zaretsky also alleges that a personal employee of Brinker's was paid with Open Hand funds but did little work for the agency.

He said the employee was given the use of an uninsured van belonging to the agency and lived in Brinker's Moultrie Street house, which Zaretsky said, the employee was remodeling.

According to Tillson, the employee was a sort of mystery man around Open Hand. She said he ran errands for the project, including picking

up produce from a grocer three times a week and delivering meals.

"There were a lot of questions about what he was being paid for. If she paid him personally, I didn't see it. I know Open Hand paid him and I know he did work for Ruth and Open Hand," Tillson said.

## 'Alcoholic Family'

Tillson said her experience at the agency was kind of like "working in an alcoholic family. There were a lot of secrets and things not shared."

Zaretsky said that after Open Hand staff alerted him to "payments to her personal contractor," he asked the CPA to re-audit the agency. The board told Brinker to provide a calendar list of all fundraisers that she had attended and all of the cash contributions

**"Receipts were never attached to deposits. It's a standard business practice that when you receive cash, you give out receipts."**

—Naomi Tillson, former Open Hand bookkeeper

from individuals or organizations given to her from 1985. The directive was ignored, Zaretsky said.

"That was the first indication that she was not going to cooperate with the board in helping us fathom what was going on at Open Hand," he said.

After increasing tension between Brinker and Zaretsky, including his airing the claims of Brinker's fiscal mismanage-

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ment and Brinker's denial and demand for substantiation before the board, Zaretsky and the accountant were voted off the board.

The accountant was informed that his services were no longer needed by the agency.

"There was a disagreement on the direction Open Hand was taking," Jeanne Alexander told the *Bay Area Reporter* in August 1988.

Brinker has told the *Bay Area Reporter* that when Zaretsky was voted off the board, "we had a lawyer at the meeting to make sure that everything was done legally."

"It was highly irregular and illegal," Zaretsky said. "Mrs. Brinker said that attorney represented her. I said that we should have been given adequate notice since the organization needed to have its attorney present as well as the minority members."

According to Zaretsky, another attorney already represented the organization on a pro-bono basis and the new attorney's employment by the board was a violation of state bar regulations.

Zaretsky's removal occurred the same day that the Irvine Foundation told the Open Hand board it would withhold payment of the second half of a \$200,000 grant because of the agency's management problems.

Irvine encouraged the agency to develop a business plan that included a projection of client caseload, development of a fundraising plan, income projections for the new kitchen at 2720 17th St. and an analysis of internal accounting and personnel policies and procedures.

It said it would only release the second payment when the "major issues" were resolved.

Irvine recommended that a consultant be hired to study board/staff relations and organizational development. A consultant was hired after Zaretsky left the board and Irvine later paid the grant.

That consultant, Harvey Chess, later joined the board.

On Aug. 30, 1988, Zaretsky's attorney wrote the agency a letter requesting that Open Hand notify all organizations who might have received a Feb. 22 audit report that Zaretsky was withdrawing his name as a signer of the management letter that certified that the board had supplied all relevant financial records to the CPA performing the audit report.

"Mr. Zaretsky recently discovered that such was not the case, and in fact, the office staff of Project Open Hand had failed to supply the Board of Directors with its request for complete documentation of all revenues received," attorney Robert Marder said.

Open Hand declined to send such a statement to its donor organizations, calling it "highly irregular" and threatening legal action should Zaretsky do so himself or "take any other such steps to publicly denigrate the reputation of Project Open Hand."

The Open Hand attorney also refused to provide Zaretsky the minutes, saying that he was not entitled to them because he was no longer a member of the board.

In addition to contacting the state Attorney General, Zaretsky has also notified the San Francisco Board of Supervisors of his allegations because local funds were used in the purchase and rehab of the agency's kitchen at 2720 17th St. ▼

## Wolfe

(Continued from page 1)

Brinker misused a \$5,000 grant given by the Junior League to start the program for other purposes.

Kornblum probably did not know that Zaretsky had informed Open Hand that he wanted his name withdrawn from a letter certifying the agency's audit after he discovered there were no receipts for cash contributions and had demanded a re-audit—and been rebuffed.

All that Kornblum probably knew was that Project Open Hand desperately wanted cold, hard cash.

That's because someone from Open Hand, according to documents obtained by the *Bay Area Reporter*, called her up and wanted to know where that money was.

When Edgar Wolfe died in San Francisco of AIDS in May 1985, he had no idea that his compassionate impulse to ease the suffering of others with the disease would stir up a hornet's nest involving both power and politics.

But six years later that desire may have put the state attorney general's charitable trust unit and Project Open Hand, San Francisco's largest AIDS charity, on a collision course.

Wolfe set up, as part of his will, an AIDS trust to be funded by the interest in a small portion of a stock he held claim to from his father's estate.

In 1988, when the assets of Wolfe's estate were ready for distribution by its trustee, they were worth about \$8 million.

According to the probate proceedings, most of those assets came from stock that the estate (Wolfe) claimed from his late father's assets in Ohio, pursuant to a settlement agreement reached after Wolfe's death.

However, as part of a settlement agreement, Wolfe's estate received about half the amount of one stock that he claimed as interest in his father's estate when he died.

Because the court ordered the estate to liquidate the stock as part of that settlement, when it was time to distribute Wolfe's assets, his estate didn't own any shares of the stock.

To satisfy Wolfe's intent, his trustee, the Bank of California, determined an appropriate amount of cash to settle the provision of his will that an AIDS trust be created.

The bank used two standard methods for determining an equivalent amount of cash to bequeath to an AIDS charity.

Both methods put the AIDS trust figure at \$200,000.

According to probate documents, the Bank of California conducted a thorough search and review for a suitable charity and selected Open Hand as the beneficiary.

"In the summer of 1988, Bob Crawford of the Bank of California brought Jane Scott, the half-sister of Edgar Wolfe, to Project Open Hand," Irving Zaretsky, former board chair of Project Open Hand, recalls.

"We spoke with them and showed them a video from People Who Care, when Mrs. (Ruth) Brinker got her award. I represented the program to them as best as I knew it. Mrs. Scott seemed to be very committed to supporting the program," he said.

The paperwork was to be handled between Crawford



Ruth Brinker rides in the gay pride parade.

(Photo: Darlene/PhotoGraphics)

and the Open Hand attorney who represented the agency on a pro-bono basis.

Zaretsky said that the attorney came uninvited to a board meeting in August 1988 and informed the board of directors that the attorney general required a new vote for members of the board of directors and its officers.

According to Zaretsky, the attorney indicated that simply reaffirming the vote taken in February 1988 was unacceptable because the bylaws required board elections the first week of the second calendar quarter.

"He said that would not be acceptable, that there had to be secret ballots and a new vote taken," Zaretsky said.

Zaretsky was critical of the

attorney because he had previously reviewed the agency's corporate papers and bylaws and had discussed agency matters with him only weeks before. At that time, Zaretsky said, the attorney had not mentioned the problem with the election.

Zaretsky said that the attorney stated that the board had never authorized any member to contact him about matters of board composition or structure.

Zaretsky asked the attorney to explain what legal work he had provided the agency since May 1, 1985, what actions he had taken on behalf of the board or corporation, and whether any board member or staff person had contacted him and what

issues they had presented for legal advice.

Zaretsky said the attorney was mandated to give full disclosure, but he never received an answer from him.

Zaretsky had been off the Open Hand board for about six weeks, when, on Oct. 7, 1988, Kornblum received a call from a "director of Project Open Hand" asking to know the status of the Wolfe Trust money.

According to documents obtained by the *Bay Area Reporter*, Kornblum checked on the status of the review and "based on the information he received from that director," decided that an employee's work had caused Open Hand delay and "em-

(Continued on page 30)

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## NGRA to Launch Military Hotline

NGRA Legal Director Paul Di Donato has announced that effective Feb. 21, NGRA's Los Angeles office will begin a military counseling hotline for gays, lesbians and bisexuals with concerns about the military's exclusion policy regarding homosexuality. The hotline can be called every Tues. and Thurs., 5-9 p.m. Hotline numbers are (213) 271-4083, 271-4180 and 271-4107. All counselors are trained by the NGRA legal staff. NGRA's counseling service will be available to all gays, lesbians and bisexuals on active military duty, in the military reserves or facing a military call-up for another reason (such as National Guard or ROTC members). Counseling for potential draftees will be considered at a later date if a draft occurs. NGRA's counselors will provide referrals to attorneys and other organizations as appropriate. Printed informational materials will also be available. The military counseling program is but one part of NGRA's large public education and legal assistance effort regarding the military exclusion policy and the recent conflict. A similar counseling program will be established in the San Francisco office in the near future. The Los Angeles hotline counseling program is being managed by NGRA's Los Angeles Partners who are major supporters of the organization.

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## NATIONAL NEWS

# HIV Name Reporting Debated in Colorado

by Ray O'Loughlin

DENVER — Colorado's controversial law requiring that the names and addresses of all those who test positive for HIV be reported to state and local health department officials is once again causing a stir in medical research circles. A prominent AIDS researcher who recently transferred his work to the University of Colorado has refused to comply with the state law.

His refusal has become the focus of a debate between the National Institutes of Health and the Centers for Disease Control.

The NIH opposes name reporting because of fears it will jeopardize research studies that can guarantee confidentiality. But the CDC wants to initiate universal name reporting as part of their plans for national surveillance of the AIDS epidemic.

Dr. Robert Schooley, who administers the only NIH sanctioned AIDS clinical trial in the Rocky Mountain region, came to Denver from Harvard University to head up infectious disease research at CU.

His refusal to report the names of those in his study has irked state health officials who insist that the law be enforced.

A bill introduced in the Colorado Legislature to exempt research programs from the reporting requirement has set off behind the scenes opposition by health officials.

Their insistence on name reporting could cost the lives of people with AIDS in Colorado, one gay activist charged.

Lobbyist Arthur Powers said health department officers were secretly trying to block the legislation. That exemption is necessary to saving AIDS research in Col-

orado, he believes.

Powers accused Dr. Richard Hoffman and others of the state's Health Department of working against the bill even though the department is officially neutral on the legislation.

"In my opinion, they have demonstrated that they personally would like very much to see this legislation not succeed so that they could subject Schooley's program to the state law requiring name reporting," Powers said.

Hoffman justified his concern, saying, "If we were assured that all cases were being reported, we wouldn't be opposed to the research exemption."

Powers said that the Health Department had "aggressively pursued" Schooley on his refusal to name names.

"In one meeting Dr. Schooley was literally 'mirandized' — read his rights — so rabid are they on enforcing this law," Powers said. "Nothing could have a more chilling effect on a researcher than this blind insistence by the Department of Health that they get the names."

Hoffman said that the proposed bill would still not guarantee anonymity for AIDS research subjects. "Names will be available to the FDA and NIH. Others outside of research will be able to look at those names and records," Hoffman said.

He said that state law protecting confidentiality was far more stringent than protections for research records.

"The Colorado law is extremely strong," he said. "Records held by state and local health departments cannot be subpoenaed and are not liable to search warrants or discovery proceedings. Research records can be subpoenaed."

Powers accused Hoffman

of making "very misleading statements" and called the confidentiality claim a "red herring, totally irrelevant" to the bill.

"This bill emancipates research programs from the ability of the Department of Health to inspect or have access to medical and laboratory records," Powers said.

Schooley was not available for comment at press time. But he was quoted in the *Los Angeles Times* on Jan. 6 as saying, "The decision to participate in research becomes very coercive if individuals are told that unless you are willing to have your name on a state list, you can't have access to the newest approaches in AIDS therapy."

Schooley believes that the reporting requirement discourages people from getting tested for HIV, which hinders efforts to stem the AIDS epidemic.

The NIH agrees with Schooley that name reporting will scare away needed research subjects for clinical drug trials and actually push an end to the AIDS epidemic further into the future.

The CDC believes name reporting will enable epidemiologists to better track the development of the epidemic, arguing that by knowing exactly who has the infection, they can better ensure that all cases are reported and avoid any duplication of records.

The matter may be settled by Dr. Louis Sullivan, secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services.

Schooley has applied for a certificate of confidentiality from HHS that would protect his records from inquiry by state officials. But given the conflict between the NIH and the CDC, there is no indication of how or when Sullivan will decide. ▼

# Agnos Addresses Illinois Gay/Lesbian PAC Dinner

by Rex Wockner

CHICAGO — Mayor Art Agnos gave the keynote address at the annual dinner of IMPACT, Illinois' gay/lesbian political action committee, in Chicago Feb. 17.

In an interview, Agnos said, "It's part of the responsibility of the mayor of San Francisco to speak to the cutting edge of issues that affect the empowerment of the lesbian and gay movement."

"Quite clearly San Francisco is one of the leaders in that effort and so, as the mayor, I feel it is incumbent on me to take time to go speak to other groups around the country about that effort."

Agnos said he has addressed gay/lesbian events in Houston, Los Angeles, New York and San Diego.

Many of the 555 attendees at the IMPACT dinner asked Agnos about San Francisco's new city-registration system for unmarried couples, which took effect on Valentine's



Mayor Art Agnos

Day.

More than 275 gay/lesbian couples registered the first day.

Agnos said partnership registration was just the beginning of his hopes and dreams for gay/lesbian San Franciscans and that he has already "implemented admin-

istrative regulations to examine getting insurance, retirement benefits, health benefits and that sort of thing."

City government can only legislate such benefits for partners of city employees, but Agnos said that once the city took the lead, much of the private sector would follow.

"This is an issue whose time has come," Agnos added.

The IMPACT dinner, the most successful in the organization's four-year history, raised more than \$100,000, which will be distributed to gay and gay-supportive candidates for political office.

The annual dinner has become a must-attend for city, county and state politicians and candidates who are aware of gay/lesbian voter clout.

More than 40 such individuals turned out this year, including Chicago Mayor Richard Daley and Cook County Board of Commissioners President Richard Phelan. ▼





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# Miami Bath Orders Changes After Reporters' Investigation

United Press International

MIAMI — A gay health club has revised its education program and ordered workers to police club activities following a newspaper report that an instructor with AIDS had oral sex with students during a safe-sex seminar.

The *Miami Herald* reported Feb. 12 that its reporters observed extensive sexual activity in public areas at the Club Body Center, and that condoms were rarely used.

On Feb. 14 the newspaper said it had learned that Cameron Arnold, the club's education director, had been diagnosed with AIDS.

The newspaper also said Arnold, 33, had oral sex with students during a safe-sex workshop at the club, but did not use a condom or tell them he had AIDS.

The club's attorney, Anthony Livotti Jr., said owner Jack Campbell was unaware that Arnold had AIDS, and had no knowledge of the sexual activities alleged by the *Herald*.

"This is news to us. If it did go on in the past, it certainly will not go on in the future," Livoti said, adding that Campbell met with employees after the first article appeared.

"They are instructed to monitor and actually walk around the club on a continu-

al basis to make sure no one will go around and have anything we were accused of having. We will police ourselves," Livoti said.

Additionally, he said, "We are changing our approach to our safe-sex presentation."

**"Whether oral sex is safe or not is in dispute. In Canada and Europe it is deemed safe."**

Livoti said the club had asked for help from state health workers and the federal Centers for Disease Control.

"Their own people will be invited to our club to conduct seminars on safe sex," he said.

The CDC classifies oral sex without condoms as "high risk" behavior for contracting the AIDS virus.

The newspaper said

Arnold's AIDS diagnosis became part of a court record when he pleaded guilty to cocaine trafficking in 1987. Arnold told the judge he was HIV positive and had early symptoms of AIDS.

He was sentenced to a year in a federal prison hospital but was released on probation four months later after prison doctors found a cancerous lesion on his penis. His attorney argued that imprisonment was "causing his condition to deteriorate rapidly."

Arnold, who appears to be in good health, returned to Miami and began working at the club.

Asked by the *Herald* why he allowed students to perform oral sex on him during the safe-sex workshop, he said, "Whether oral sex is safe or not is in dispute. In Canada and Europe it is deemed safe."

The *Herald* article prompted Metro-Dade County Commissioner Joe Gersten to propose an ordinance prohibiting "high-risk sexual activity" in bathhouses and health clubs. Clubs that repeatedly violate the ordinance could be shut down and their owners or operators jailed. Courts have upheld similar laws in other cities, including San Francisco where there have been no operating bathhouses since 1987. ▼

## National Briefs

## NGLTF Anti-Violence Campaign

A nationwide effort to document and counteract violence against lesbians and gay men will be launched in March by the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force and community-based groups fighting the growing problem of homophobic harassment and attacks. The "Campaign to Count and Counter Hate Crimes," which kicks off on March 6, will encourage and assist local efforts to document anti-gay incidents, educate lesbian and gay people on how to resist violence, and advocate for vigorous official response to the problem. The campaign launch will feature media conferences, forums, rallies and other events across the country. NGLTF will announce the campaign and release its annual violence report. Groups from around the nation will release their violence statistics for 1990. Some community and campus-based groups also will announce their plans for counteracting anti-gay incidents in their areas. NGLTF strongly encourages other gay and lesbian groups to participate in the campaign. For more information on the campaign, write or call the NGLTF Policy Institute Anti-Violence Project at 1734 14th St. NW, Washington, DC 20009, (202) 332-6482.

## World Briefs

## London S/M Gays Fight Oppression

Nearly 200 practitioners of gay sadomasochistic sex turned out for a meeting in London in late January to discuss the recent hefty sentences handed down by a judge against 15 men convicted of having consensual and/or solitary S/M sex in their own homes. Under the banner "No Gay Witch Hunt," the members of the group S/M Gays decided to initiate a Parliamentary lobby campaign and write letters to the non-tabloid press in hopes of persuading journalists to report on the situation. On Dec. 15 Judge James Rant sent 15 gay men to prison for up to 4-1/2 years each after police confiscated homemade S/M videos from their homes. Police targeted the men after they received prohibited material by mail from other countries. In sentencing the men, Rant declared that although gay sex is legal in Britain, one may not cause "actual bodily harm," keep a "disorderly house," engage in "unlawful wounding," or produce "obscene" videos.

— Rex Wockner

— Rex Wockner

## Gays Take Austria to European Court

Homosexual Initiative Vienna, or HOSI Wien, will take the Austrian government to the European Court of Human Rights following a constitutional-court ruling that police acted within the law when they violently broke up a 1988 HOSI protest at a memorial service for victims of the Nazis. HOSI activists had walked around with a banner reading, "Thousand of Homosexuals Are Waiting for Compensation." The Austrian Court ruled, "The carrying and prominent display of this banner — in itself an attempt to interfere with the memorial — warranted the action of the police in order to protect the event from interference." The court fined HOSI \$2,200. HOSI had argued that its members were exercising their rights of freedom of speech and thought, but the court reminded HOSI that Article 220 of the Austrian constitution forbids spreading positive information about homosexuality. Article 220 was enforced for the first time only last year when another court ordered the confiscation of one issue each of HOSI's two news-magazines.

— Rex Wockner

— Rex Wockner

## Liberian Gay Group Disbands

Club Lambda, the only gay group in the West African nation of Liberia, has disbanded for the duration of the country's ongoing bloody civil war. Prior to the time that rebel forces reached Monrovia, the capital, the group's membership had grown to 75 and plans were afoot to start a second chapter in a regional capital. Now, most of the 75 members have taken refuge in neighboring Freetown, Sierra Leone or Abidjan, Ivory Coast. The remainder are hiding with relatives in the bush. A few of the group members who have money want to emigrate to the United States, but they must await a determination by the State Department of who is and isn't a Liberian refugee. Club Lambda was launched in April 1988 by US Peace Corps volunteer Tom Myers. Four people showed up for the first meeting. Myers said he "saw the spark" of gay liberation "and blew on the spark really hard to start the fire." "Liberian gay men and lesbians suffer ferocious oppression [as a result of] socially ingrained machismo in heterosexual men and a Christian fundamentalism propagated by American missionaries," Myers said. "The oppression includes ostracism by family, friends and associates; harassment from security police and militia; imprisonment merely for being homosexual; and blackmail." The group's meetings were regularly raided by soldiers yelling the word "punk" which means "fag."

— Rex Wockner

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## U.S. Health Officials to Discuss HIV Screening of Doctors

United Press International

ATLANTA — Federal health officials are organizing a two-day meeting for Feb. 21 to consider whether to recommend screening surgeons and dentists for the AIDS virus and possibly restricting the practice of those who are infected.

The Centers for Disease Control said as many as 1,000 health professionals, including representatives of the American Medical Association and the American Dental Association are expected to attend.

"This meeting will allow representatives of various groups and organizations and members of the public to review and comment on available risk assessment data and the implications of these risks," the CDC said. "The CDC looks forward to obtaining advice on this complex issue ..."

The meeting was prompted by a report last month from the CDC that an AIDS-infected Florida dentist, David Acer, may have infected three, possibly four, of his patients with the human immunodeficiency virus.

The Acer case first surfaced in June 1990, when it was reported that Acer had infected Kimberly Bergalis with the AIDS virus.

On Jan. 18 the CDC issued an update on the Acer investigation, saying the evidence suggested that the dentist had infected two others, with findings still pending in the case of a fourth AIDS-infected patient.

Comprehensive guidelines to prevent the transmission of AIDS in a health-care setting were issued by the CDC soon after the beginning of the AIDS epidemic in June 1981.

Those guidelines recommended that health-care workers wear gloves and masks during invasive procedures.

When the CDC issued its update on the Acer case, the CDC's Dr. Harold Jaffe, an AIDS investigator, said there were few remaining preventive steps that could be taken aside from screening surgeons and dentists for the AIDS virus and possibly restricting or barring from practice those that are infected.

The CDC issued a draft report for use at the meeting in which it attempted to estimate the risk of AIDS and hepatitis B transmission during invasive surgical and dental procedures.

The report estimated the number of dental patients infected with the AIDS virus by their dentists from a low of 10 to a high of 100 since the start of the AIDS epidemic in 1981.

### The risk of getting AIDS in a health-care setting is small compared with other risks.

Surgeons may have infected from three to 28 patients during operations, it said.

So far, however, the CDC has found only three people — Acer's patients — who acquired the deadly infection

from a health-care worker.

As of Sept. 30, 1990, the CDC said there were 42 surgeons and 156 dental workers known to be infected with the AIDS virus. But it said the actual number may be much higher — 336 surgeons and 1,248 dental workers.

The draft report concludes the risk of getting AIDS in a health-care setting is small compared with other risks, such as the use of anesthesia. It said 100 of every million surgical patients dies from the side effects of anesthesia.

The American Dental Association and the American Medical Association have taken the position there is no scientific evidence to indicate that AIDS-infected health care workers pose an identifiable risk to their patients.

Both the ADA and AMA said doctors and dentists who are infected should refrain from performing invasive procedures. ▼

## 2nd Suit Filed Against HIV-Infected Dentist

United Press International

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. — A man who contracted AIDS as a dental patient filed a \$1 million negligence lawsuit Feb. 14 against the estate of the dentist who gave him the disease.

Richard Lee Driskill, his wife, Deanne, and his daughter, Renee, also named as a defendant in the suit Cigna Dental Health of Florida Inc., the company that referred Driskill to Dr. David J. Acer of Stuart, who died last year of AIDS.

"Cigna referred the Driskill family to Doctor Acer and represented that he was competent in all respects to practice invasive dentistry even though he knowingly continued to practice with HIV and AIDS," said Driskill's lawyer, Bob Montgomery.

He said Acer did not practice infection control to protect patients in his office.

"Although Dr. Acer was not implementing infection control procedures as outlined ... Cigna continued to give Dr. Acer and his office high marks on their annual review reports and allowed him to continue to practice as one of their preferred providers," Montgomery said.

Cigna officials were unavailable for comment.

Driskill declined comment. His immune cell count has dropped, but he is suffering no symptoms of the disease, and his wife and daughter have tested negative for HIV, Montgomery said.

The Center for Disease Control in Atlanta has said there was a 99.99 percent probability Driskill contracted HIV from Acer. The agency denied the possibility he got the disease from sexual contact.

Evidence of the first known case of a dentist passing the disease to a patient surfaced in a July 26, 1990.

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## Always Leave a Paper Trail

## California Care Doesn't

by Michael C. Botkin

I have had my first serious run-in with my insurance company, and although I seem to have won, it has shaken my none-too-firm confidence in them.

California Care, an HMO run by Blue Cross, advertises relentlessly on my favorite radio station about how much they care about you. But to my horror, when push came to shove, they seemed quite prepared to sit on their hands and watch me die.

About a month ago my doctor ordered an MRI scan ("Magnetic Resonance Imaging") to hunt for a possible brain tumor. While I was less freaked out than I might have been — I've gone through at least three serious Kaposi scares now, and don't spook easy — I was anxious to get this investigation over with. But when my doc tried to order this high-tech test (which my partner says costs around \$1,000), my insurer wouldn't let him.

When I called them to find out why, they told me that he wasn't my doctor at all. According to their records I was still being treated by my old doctor, who'd practiced with a different medical group all together.

Unfortunately, my old doc had retired several months ago (ironically, he said it was

because he couldn't deal with all the bullshit from insurers).

My new doc was one of the few he'd recommended who was willing to take new patients covered by California Care.

(Insurance Shoppers Tip: Your new employer has offered you a choice of three HMOs. Their slick benefits booklets seem to be identical — all show happy nuclear families on the cover, offer the same benefits, and even list the same doctors. Which should you choose? To find out, call a few of the doctors' offices and ask them if they are taking new patients. They'll ask you what insurance you have. Reel off the list and see which HMO — if any — they are willing to deal with. Some HMOs are so cruddy that health-care workers will flinch audibly when you mention them. Avoid these.)

How could I go several months with the "wrong" doctor without my insurance company noticing? Well, my monthly prescriptions were paid by a generic Blue Cross card, so changes in medical group didn't matter. And payment by insurers routinely takes months; trouble was brewing, but could easily have taken even longer to surface.

## The Paper Trail

It turns out that in California Care (and probably many other cheesy HMOs) you can change doctors but not medical groups, except during Open Enrollment month (which had ended a week before I made my change) or if you move at least 20 miles (which I had not). Therefore, my change was illegal and had been disallowed.

They would actually have gotten away with this if they had bothered to tell me about it at the time. But when I had called to change my coverage they told me it was cool. What's more, I had written and sent a letter to them confirming the change, prominently noting that it included a change of medical group. And their own records showed that they had received this letter, although they apparently soon lost it.

So I had them over a barrel, by virtue of my paper trail, if this letter was as explicit as I claimed. But they wouldn't concede this until I sent them another copy.

There followed three days of delay while I tried to do this. They never got my first faxed copy, sent on Wednesday. I spent three hours by a fax machine on Thursday, fruitlessly attempting to get a fax through to the designated number. It turned out that



## Naked City Cocktales

The San Francisco AIDS Foundation will kickoff a new, expanded series of the popular Naked City Cocktales Show on Feb. 23 at midnight at the Colossus club. An innovative program billed as sex fantasies featuring songs, dances, naked men and money, Naked City Cocktales reaches out to some of the disenfranchised members of the gay community. The new 1991 Tour of Naked City Cocktales will feature the camp group Acid Housewife, pictured above. Naked City Cocktales highlights include the live demonstration of "How to Properly Put on a Condom" and the "Safe Sex Shopping Network." For more information, call Joe Fera at 864-5855, ext. 2030.

"this fax machine was down." I insisted they give me an alternate number and sent it there, but they still couldn't find it.

On Friday I managed to fax it to the first number, but just to be on the safe side also sent a copy by registered, overnight mail. On Monday, I figured, they wouldn't be able to deny that they had a copy.

Indeed, they couldn't and didn't. Instead they just refused to talk to me at all.

"Janet isn't at her desk. Edna Mae's (Janet's supervisor) line is busy — no we can't put you on hold. Yes, I'll give her the message as soon as she's off."

In retrospect it seems pretty clear that they were stalling while they searched in vain for a way to screw me over.

## A Minor Hassle

For all that I was in fear for my life, I'd never amount to more than a minor hassle to Janet and Edna Mae. It was embarrassing that they had been caught in an error. Now they had to go and give away something that California Care preferred to deny — but they weren't going to do it unless I could prove that I had them by the short hairs. It was a pain in their asses that I kept calling so persistently.

Persistent I was. I realized early on that without a legitimate primary-care physician I essentially had no coverage. I couldn't be admitted to the hospital of my old medical group because I no longer had an admitting doctor there. And I wouldn't be admitted to the hospital of my new group because, according to my insurer, they weren't my new group at all.

Worrying about a brain tumor was bad enough without the added possibility that I didn't have any insurance.

Janet didn't give a fuck; neither did Edna Mae; nor, I suppose, did anyone at California Care. I wasn't about to change insurers — HIVers can't be real choosy about these things. Anyway, they would be thrilled if I did change, leaving them with one less expensive, bitchy customer.

When I called first thing on Tuesday morning, Janet pleasantly conceded everything and pretended that she

hadn't been jerking me around and playing Russian roulette with my brain for a week. By Saturday I'd had my MRI, which, thank goodness, turned out negative.

The moral of this story is: 1) you can't be too paranoid when it comes to insurance companies; 2) document everything you ever do with insurers, and keep copies; 3) if your insurer is making you miserable, make them miserable back. Not only does it relieve the tension but it may accomplish something.

## Clarifications

I spoke with Kitty Castro the other day, who called to complain about my "Scabies Award" column. You may recall that the New Alliance Party won the With Friends Like These Who Needs Enemies Award, mostly due to Cleo Manago, who I referred to as being "strongly supported" by Kitty Castro.

For the record, Kitty wants it known that he does not know Cleo Manago, never met him, and doesn't support him or his actions (and certainly not his persecution of HIVers).

"I do support Jim Mangia and Lenora Fulani, but it doesn't mean I support everything the NAP does," Castro told me. "You can support NAP without supporting Cleo Manago, just like you can be part of Queer Nation without supporting Jonathan Katz."

Some readers of last week's column may have noted that I referred repeatedly to "Cathy" Bergalis, when my subject's true name is Kimberly Bergalis. This will teach me to read *People* magazine more closely from now on — unfortunately the checkout line at the Safeway was moving really fast that day.

Those who are unhappy with Bergalis' campaign against HIVer health-care workers may be interested in a rally sponsored by ACT UP/ Golden Gate, today (Thursday, Feb. 21) at the main entrance of San Francisco General Hospital from 3:30 to 5 p.m. This action is timed to coincide with a meeting of the Centers for Disease Control where the federal government may decide to require mandatory testing and forced retirement of HIVers who work at hospitals. ▼

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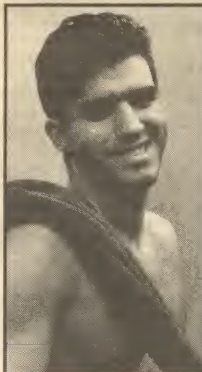
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## AIDS NEWS

# PWAs With Tuberculosis Die Despite Therapy's Success

by Dave Gilden

Tuberculosis has proved to be a serious problem in people with HIV infections. There has been some doubt whether standard anti-TB therapies are effective in such individuals. But a new survey of 132 San Franciscans who had both TB and AIDS between 1981 and 1988 shows that, if completed, the regular treatments do indeed eliminate the tuberculosis bacteria. Death from other causes frequently interrupted the six to nine month course of therapy, however.

Of the 125 patients who received treatment for TB, 51 died before their therapy was completed. In the deaths of eight out of these 51, TB was

a major contributing factor, with six of the eight dying within the first month of therapy. Seven people died before their tuberculosis could be diagnosed.

In members of the study cohort who were diagnosed early and treated promptly, success rates were not much different from those in HIV-negative TB patients.

Relapse and failure occurred only in those of the cohort who were unable to follow the lengthy and complicated treatment regimen.

Three features did distinguish the dual-disease group from those with AIDS or TB alone. First of all, people who came down with both TB and AIDS were almost three times more likely to be non-white. They were also three

times more likely to be IV drug users. Once they had TB, two-thirds of the time it involved sites outside the lungs, such as the central nervous system.

Finally, 18 percent of the HIV-positive TB patients suffered serious adverse drug side effects, a rate four times higher than normal.

Whatever their experience with treatment, people in the study group died relatively rapidly after their TB diagnosis. Their mean survival time was only 16 months (although 10 percent remained alive five years or more).

This bleak prognosis is not substantially different from that of individuals who come down with pneumocystis pneumonia, the leading AIDS-related killer. ▼

## CURAS

(Continued from page 4)

cidence of HIV infection than other communities as major difficulties.

"The very concept of being gay is a white concept born out of a social movement," Gonzalez elaborated. "While there is a whole continuum of identities within the community, many Latinos need to be approached in a culturally appropriate way that doesn't identify them as gay or lesbian."

To this end, CURAS seeks out neighborhood figures who will host group counseling sessions in their homes.

Another special issue in Latino culture according to Gonzalez is "religiosity." "I would challenge you to name a dominant culture agency that has a clear presentation of religiosity. This involves the main issues we're dealing with, grief and death," Gonzalez said.

As in the question of gay identity, there is a range of relationships to the traditional Latino position. Hispanics who are gay- or lesbian-identified have had to engage in a conscious revolt against the Catholic Church, but many Latinos have made no such break. There is a need therefore to deal with issues of religion in a direct and honest way.

In general, Gonzalez says, there is a need to maintain one's Latino identity even if one has opted for integration into the gay and lesbian community. "Few people talk of biculturalism rather than assimilation," Gonzalez complained.

CURAS does run an outreach program to "dominant culture" agencies, offering cultural awareness training to enable them to respond to these issues, but Gonzalez argued, "As a gay Latino, I want to make it clear that the leadership has to come from within the community, from groups like CURAS, and the money for community services should stay within the community." ▼

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# New York Launches Condom Campaign

United Press International

NEW YORK — The city Health Department has launched a "playful" campaign urging sexually active adolescents to use condoms as a way of avoiding AIDS, sexually transmitted diseases and unwanted pregnancy.

The ad campaign, which is being run in English and Spanish, features attention-getting pictures of teens bathing around a condom balloon.

One ad says, "Condoms. Play with them but don't play around without them." Another says, "If you are going to do it, do it right. Use a condom."

Health Commissioner Woodrow Myers insisted the ads "neither promote nor condone adolescent sex. But they

do mean business."

"No matter how much we would like it otherwise, it is a fact of life in the '90s that many of our youth are placing themselves at multiple risk through their sexual activity," he said.

"We are obligated not to abandon these young people, but rather to assist them in lessening those risks," Myers said. "Safer sex does save lives."

He said "like it or not," some 80 percent of city youths are sexually active by age 19 and are at risk for contracting AIDS.

The advertisements will appear on posters on billboards and in subways and buses this month. They also will appear in selected publications targeted to young people. ▼

## AIDS Briefs

### Companies Curb Health-Care Costs

NEW YORK (UPI) — A survey of 1,000 managers of companies in Boston, San Francisco, New York City and other areas found job security, wages and benefits to be the three biggest workplace issues. The survey, conducted by Jackson, Lewis, Schnitzler and Krupman, also showed that eight of 10 companies were taking steps to curb health-care costs, in part because 61 percent of the companies had an employee with HIV in 1990. More than half the respondents represented national companies, and 68 percent represented firms that employ at least 250 people.

### Gonorrhea Cases Soar in Pittsburgh

PITTSBURGH (UPI) — The number of gonorrhea cases in the Allegheny County, Pa., area jumped 69 percent from 1988, reversing a five-year decline, health officials said. The sharp rise in gonorrhea cases indicates people are having unprotected sex at increasing rates, which has serious implications for the AIDS epidemic, said Bruce Dixon, chief of the Health Department's sexually transmitted diseases program. Heterosexual teens and young adults account for 80 percent of all cases, an alarming trend that could mean an increase in the number of AIDS cases, Dixon said. Although health officials cannot pinpoint the cause of the increased gonorrhea infection rates, Dixon said heterosexuals, who think they are not at risk for HIV, may be having promiscuous, unprotected sex.



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# DEATHS

**James C. Hodgdon**  
March 20, 1957-Feb. 10, 1991

James C. "Jay" Hodgdon, 33, of Foster City, died of AIDS complications at Mills Hospital in San Mateo. With him were his lover, Bill Anderson, and his close friend, Steven Kroll.

Jay's courageous battle with AIDS began less than a year ago. During the ensuing struggle, he was able to live much of the remainder of his life doing the things he enjoyed most.

Jay was born in Boothbay Harbor, Me. After graduating from Dartmouth College in 1980, he moved to Boston where he was involved in scientific research. He met his lover, Bill, in 1983 and in 1987 they relocated to the Bay Area.

After two years of working in the field of genetic engineering at Genentech, Jay discovered a new love—computers. In the enthusiastic, high-spirited fashion that was so typical of him, Jay soon became a completely self-taught expert at software programming. In 1989 he became a software engineer for Apple Computer and continued working in that position throughout his illness.

Jay was president of the Gay Macintosh Users Group (GMUG) and also had his own successful company, Ignatz Software. He was the author of a widely-used software program called "Show Dialogue."

Jay will forever be in the memories of those people whose lives he touched. He will be remembered especially for his creativity, intelligence, good looks and zest for life. Survivors include his lover, Bill; his parents, Sonny and

Margaret; his brother, Timothy; his cats, Ignatz and Oops; and his many loving friends.

Friends are invited to attend a memorial celebration in San Francisco on Saturday, Feb. 23. Call 578-1230 for details. An East Coast memorial service will be held in Boston on March 3. Jay's ashes will be scattered in the dunes of Provincetown. Memorial donations may be made to the Names Project or to Project Open Hand. ▼

**Harold B. Hollingsworth**  
June 11, 1933-Jan. 23, 1991

Harold left us on Jan. 23 after a lengthy illness. His warm smile and



quick wit will be missed by all his longtime close companions. He enjoyed the opera and symphony, and was an active contemporary art collector. He was a sculptor, artist and a member of the SF Museum of Modern Art.

As a child he was raised in Oregon and moved later to Alaska, a fact he never let anyone forget. His Klondike adventures with his black Labrador, Satin, left an indelible impression on him.

Harold attended the University of Oregon and was a member of Beta Theta Pi. After a stint in the Army he moved to the city and worked in the engineering department at PG&E for 30 years until his retirement.

He will be most fondly remembered by Bill Robinson, Bill Mock, Cal Moore and his mother, Granelle, of Bandon, Ore.

A private memorial was held. Contributions should be sent to the SF Museum of Modern Art. ▼

**Robert J. Evans**  
Nov. 7, 1940-Feb. 3, 1991

At his home on Sunday, Feb. 3, Bob ended his struggle with AIDS. At his



side were Al, his lover of 11 years, and Keith, a very dear, close, long-time friend. Bob faced this ordeal with courage and dignity, as well as a wonderful sense of humor and a razor sharp wit that is already missed.

Bob was born and raised in the Detroit area. After becoming a CPA and practicing for many years in Michigan, he moved to San Francisco, a city he had visited and loved. He went to work for Di Giorgio Corp. and started a long career in corporate accounting which eventually transferred him to Sacramento where he lived for several years. In 1980, he fell in love, moved back to San Francisco and started a new life. He also realized a dream when he started his own successful CPA practice. Bob enjoyed cooking, square dancing and cuddling by the fire.

Bob is survived by his lover, Al; his children, Ruffles, Dusty and Tiger; his many close friends; his parents, George and Winifred; his brother, George; and his sister-in-law, Tanya. Donations may be made in Bob's name to the Visiting Nurses and Hospice of San Francisco. A memorial service will be held Feb. 23. For information, you may call 861-8189.

Goodbye, my love—you'll always live in my heart. ▼

**Robin R. Anderson**  
Oct. 28, 1943-Feb. 6, 1991

After a year-long fight against carcinoma, Robin quietly left us. He is survived by his father, Robert R. Anderson; his stepmother, Valerie Beach Anderson; his sisters, Bobbie Mix and Chris Anderson; and many other children and grandchildren of his father, cousins, nieces and nephews.

Although he had not been active for several years, AA, NA and the Living Sober program were enriched during the early and middle '80s

by his active participation in meetings, shows and conventions.

His loss is grievous to his many close personal friends, especially Ole Bagger, Ron Montero, Ken Hughes, Kathy Sullivan, Gene Windels, Walter Lichtenstein, Bobbie Sellers and many others too numerous to mention. His family and friends wish to express their gratitude for the care given by his physicians and nurses at San Francisco General Hospital which helped ease his final days.

There will be a memorial service at 150 Eureka St., on Monday, Feb. 25, at 7:30 p.m. For more information, call Bobbie at 474-1164. ▼

**Stephen Fish**  
May 4, 1948-Feb. 8, 1991

Stephen R. Fish died at Mount Zion Hospital from AIDS. He was born in Plainfield, Iowa, a town of 500 people, and attended seminary in Southern California and Chicago. Prior to moving to San Francisco, he lived in Minneapolis, where he worked as a youth counselor in juvenile detention facilities. In San Francisco, he worked as a legal secretary until his illness made him unable to work last year. Stephen was active in many

lesbian/gay community organizations. He was proud of his eight years clean and sober through his involvement with AA and NA. Stephen was also a member of Black and White Men Together.

His commitment to end the AIDS epidemic took many forms. He was a founding member of People With Immune Systems Disorders (PISD), and was active in ACT UP/San Francisco. He supported the Golden Gate Bridge blockade by Stop AIDS Now or Else and later joined the Opera House chapter of SANOAE. He looked dashing in his evening wear even after being maced and physically attacked by opera-goers incensed at having their party interrupted. Although a Bay Area resident, he somehow managed to be in Pasadena last year just in time to participate in SANOAE's disruption of the Tournament of Roses Parade. In May 1990, Stephen was one of the activists who presented SANOAE's demands to the head of the INS when that organization staged simultaneous occupations of the INS offices in Los Angeles and San Francisco.

On his tax returns for 1989 Stephen wrote, "President Bush should be executed for genocide against PWAs—Stop AIDS Now or Else!" For this he received a surprise visit from the secret service. Stephen had to elude them one night by ducking down in the cab that sped by his apartment as the government agents waited for him to return from work.

One of Stephen's favorite theories was that lesbians and gay men were survivors of an alien spaceship, and that someday our kind would find us and get us the hell out of here.

Stephen took on many battles against racism, sexism and classism in the gay community. His love, humor and friendship, his anger at and commitment to end social injustice will be greatly missed.

He leaves behind eight brothers and sisters, his mother, and an enormous number of friends all over the country and in groups like AA/NA, SANOAE, ACT UP, Black and White Men Together, LAGAL and Shanti.

Donations in Stephen's memory may be made to the National Association of Black and White Men Together EACH Program, an early intervention program for gay men of color, at 631 O'Farrell St., SF 94109. For information as to the date and location of the memorial service, please call 558-8671. ▼

**Alain Rossi**  
1956-1991

It is with great sadness that the friends of Alain Rossi announce his passing.

Born in Nice, France, he came to the Bay Area in 1985, staying for three years, during which he made deep and lasting friendships. Many will remember him as the amusing eccentric who started the oyster bar at the Zuni Cafe.

After being diagnosed with AIDS, he returned to Paris to be close to his family and to have access to the public health and social welfare systems.

He died on the morning of Feb. 7, at Saint Louis Hospital, Paris. He was lovingly cared for by four women: Michelle, Antoinette and Sylviane, his relatives; and Malika, his roommate and friend.

Up to his last days, Alain dreamed of coming back to the Bay Area, a place that he held dearly in his heart. Unfortunately, death made that dream impossible.

His ashes will be taken to Nice and scattered in the favorite places of his childhood. He will always be remembered by all who knew him as a gentle and unique man. ▼

**Ronald C. Silva**  
April 16, 1953-Jan. 25, 1991

A lifetime squeezed into four years. It started out all sex and fun and "cocktail hikes" from Muir Beach, and gradually became all love and caring, and ultimately sadness for those of us who loved him yet remain.

A native of Turlock, Calif., Ron was a graduate of Long Beach State University and San Francisco State University. He initially taught disabled children and for the last seven years worked for Pacific Bell, most recently as a training manager.

For two years Ron suffered from AIDS without complaint. He died at home with his friend, David; sister, Dolores; brother, Richard; lover, Dave; and our three dogs, Betty, Pickles and Scooter, at his side. Our thanks to Dr. Larry and the Clinical Home Care nurses who helped us so much.

Ron's final year, particularly the time spent at our cabin in Monte Rio, was the happiest, most peaceful, and the hardest of his life. He learned all of life's lessons.

Ron now rests in Turlock Memorial Cemetery, and, although he died young, he didn't miss a thing that life had to offer. A celebration of Ron's life will be held in April. Call Dave at 626-7735 for details. ▼

**John H. Van Deventer**  
Aug. 18, 1960-Feb. 12, 1991

John died peacefully at the Coming Home Hospice of AIDS-related complications during the evening of Feb. 12. His mother, Ann; his sister, Elizabeth; and two friends, Michael Rose and David Elkins, were able to be with him when he died. His father, John; and brothers, Dave and Matt, arrived shortly after.



John was born in New York City, grew up in Purcellville, Virginia, near the Blue Ridge Mountains, and came to San Francisco to live in 1980.

In 1988, he graduated from San Francisco Art Institute with a bachelor of fine arts, majoring in photography.

He was best known for landscape photography and was just beginning to gain some recognition when he became ill with AIDS in August 1989. John loved the outdoors and had a very special eye for beauty in nature, which was reflected in his photography.

John's smile and humor brought joy to all who knew him. For the many who loved him, he will live always in our memories.

A memorial service for family and friends took place on Saturday, Feb. 16, at San Gregorio. A second memorial service will be held for John near his home in Virginia. ▼

**Alan Charles Hobbs**

Alan Charles Hobbs died on Feb. 6 at Children's Hospital in San Francisco, at the age of 56. He was the beloved brother of Jean, Sheila, Peter and Chris. Services will be held at Grace Cathedral on Feb. 12. ▼

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**Michael Gill**  
April 22, 1928-Feb. 10, 1991

A familiar face to hundreds of people in the community, Michael was known as "San Francisco's English Butler" and he deserved the title, having served four presidents, the royal family and movie stars, as well as sometimes volunteering to serve the elderly in need.

Michael was butler and valet to the late actor Laurence Harvey and to San Francisco Chief of Protocol Cyril Magnin. Michael also was a member of several motorcycle clubs, producing and directing shows and performing as well. He made us laugh many times!

Funeral services will be held at Grace Cathedral, California and Taylor streets, San Francisco, on Friday, Feb. 22, at 4 p.m. Interment will follow immediately after in the Grace Columbarium in the Bell Tower. All are invited.

In lieu of flowers, friends ask that donations be made at the service to cover funeral expenses with remaining funds collected going to the AIDS Emergency Fund. ▼



# AIDS Advocate Rep. Conte Dies

by Cliff O'Neill

WASHINGTON — Capitol Hill was shocked and saddened Feb. 10 to learn of the death of one of Congress' most beloved members, Rep. Silvio O. Conte, the colorful veteran Massachusetts Republican most widely known for his sense of humor and his defense of funding for U.S. health initiatives.

The liberal GOP representative from Pittsfield, Mass., was 69 when he died of a brain hemorrhage at the Bethesda, Md.,-based National Institutes of Health, where he had been undergoing treatment for a blood clot of the brain.

In a statement released by Conte's office, doctors hypothesized that the bleeding was brought about by the progression of prostate cancer for which he had been operated on in 1987.

Throughout his 32 years in office, Conte gained the reputation of being an outspoken foe of "pork barrel" politics, often resorting to comical speeches on the House floor denouncing spending for special projects in members' home districts.

Through his position as the ranking minority member of both the full House Appropriations Committee and its Labor, Health and Human Services and Education Subcommittee, Conte is best remembered for his ardent support of funding for federal

health programs and AIDS initiatives.

"Losing Silvio is going to be a real problem," commented Conte's Massachusetts colleague, Rep. Barney Frank (D). "He was an unusually good member of Congress in general, and he was an extraordinarily good member of Congress for a Republican."

A spokesperson for Rep. Gerry Studds (D-Mass.) said that he was very "sad" to hear of Conte's loss, adding that the Massachusetts Democrat "had a great deal of affection for him."

On gay and lesbian issues, Conte, although not a co-sponsor of the federal gay rights bill, scored a 100 percent positive rating from the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force on their "report cards" for the 101st Congress.

"It's a tragic loss for the AIDS community and gays and lesbians," said Task Force spokesperson Robert Bray of Conte's passing. "Not only did he support our issues, but he was a very kind man."

As the ranking Republican on the appropriations committee, Conte played a crucial role in keeping the AIDS and anti-gay amendments of Rep. William Dannemeyer (R-Calif.) from being tacked on to a number of money bills.

In past years, Conte was responsible for procedural motions that shut off debate on the bills funding the nation's health programs. ▼

# Fremont School Board Race Spawns Unprecedented Suit

by Keith Clark

Jim Fallon, the only openly gay candidate in the upcoming March 5 school board recall election in Fremont, Calif., is planning to file what is believed to be an unprecedented lawsuit over the withdrawn endorsements of two groups.

The Fremont Neighbors for Better Schools and the Fremont Unified District Teachers Association earlier this year had both endorsed Fallon's bid for one of the three seats in the March 5 election. Their endorsements included a commitment to give \$2,000 and \$2,500, respectively, to his election fund.

In late January, the two groups met briefly with Fallon and gave him an ultimatum of either withdrawing from the race or losing their endorsements. When Fallon refused to withdraw, the groups canceled their endorsements.

Fallon told the *Bay Area Reporter* that the abrupt change by the groups had left his campaign in serious debt. Fallon said he had hired a consultant and a graphic artist

as well as ordered mailers and signs based on the groups' earlier commitment.

Fallon's attorney, Ray Frost, is preparing to file the suit "within the next week or so," claiming both direct financial loss as well as emotional damages from the endorsement withdrawal. Frost said he is unaware of any such lawsuit over a withdrawn endorsement, and said if the suit is successful, it could establish an important precedent.

Representatives from both groups declined to comment on the Fallon suit or to comment further on their endorsement change.

Earlier this month, however, Joan Bohnett, president of the teachers association, said the group had rescinded its endorsement because Fallon "was not actively campaigning," a claim Fallon vigorously denies.

Last week Fallon told the *Bay Area Reporter*, "I've been calling voters, I've been putting up (campaign) signs. At the time they dumped me, I had ordered the signs, I had ordered the platform pamphlets, I had ordered the mail-

ers. Does that sound like someone who isn't actively campaigning?"

Fallon acknowledged that an accident earlier this year that broke both his arm and his shoulder, leaving him in a body brace, had curtailed some of his campaign activities, but said that hardly meant he was not actively campaigning.

The family law attorney has also come under attack from the Fremont Family Alliance (FFA), the anti-gay organization that tried unsuccessfully in 1990 to remove Robert Stipicevich from the board after he publicly announced his homosexuality.

JoAnn Stansberry of FFA said the group was endorsing three candidates because of their opposition to homosexuality and the "growing homosexual movement."

In the March 5 recall election, Fallon and FFA-endorsed candidate Charles DeWitt are vying for a seat held until this past week by James Klent, who has resigned, leaving only the two candidates competing for the post. ▼

## DEATHS

John Soares  
1949-1991

As he had foreseen, John passed on into the universe on that day of love and lovers, Feb. 14. His family and friends whispered in his ear and encouraged him to let go. He finally let go on his own. A staunch individualist, John was rarely open to suggestion.



He was a lover of art, beauty and nature, and taught art for many years at George Washington High School. Through his batiks, paintings and sculptures he gave his friends and the world a legacy of beauty and has made damn well sure he won't be forgotten. He will not be.

Friends are invited to attend a memorial mass at Most Holy Redeemer Catholic Church, 18th and Diamond streets, on Saturday, March 2, 1991, at 11 a.m.

The family respectfully suggests con-

tributions to San Francisco AIDS Foundation, Project Open Hand, or American Foundation for AIDS Research. ▼

## Obituary Policy

Due to an unfortunately large number of obituaries, *Bay Area Reporter* has been forced to change its obituary policy.

We must now restrict obits to 200 words. And please, no poetry. We reserve the right to edit for style, clarity, grammar, and taste.

Write name of person on back of photo. If you include an envelope to have the photo returned, please write the person's name on the inside of the envelope flap.

Deadline for all obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m. ▼

## Joffrey Dancer, Writer Dies

United Press International

Former Joffrey Ballet dancer and writer Burton Taylor died Feb. 13, in White Plains, N.Y. He was 47. Taylor had been suffering from AIDS for about two years, and had been retired from the Joffrey Ballet since about 1979, a spokeswoman for the company said. He had written for *Dance Magazine* since his retirement.

Taylor made his professional debut with the Eglevsky Ballet in 1959, and in 1962 joined the American Ballet Theatre, where he be-

came a soloist five years later. He joined the Joffrey in 1968, but was forced to retire after a knee injury in 1970.

However, he rejoined the company just three years later. After he retired from dance for the second and final time, he became a contributing editor of *Dance Magazine* from 1979 to 1983, and wrote a column, "Dancer's World," for the magazine for several years.

Remembering Taylor, Joffrey artistic director Gerald Arpino described him as, "a true artist, with elegance, wit and intelligence." ▼



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## BAY AREA REPORTER

Because You Need To Know



## 'Examiner' and Gay Sanctuary

Compiled by Ben Carlson

The Feb. 5 issue of the *San Francisco Examiner* included a confusing essay by columnist Rob Morse on the gay sanctuary proposal being considered by the San Francisco Board of Supervisors.

Morse argued that because San Francisco has a domestic partners ordinance, good AIDS care and "tolerance of private lives," it's already a sanctuary for gays and that the proposal is redundant.

Then Morse contradicted himself by admitting that a "strong argument" for the proposal can be made (it would prevent the city from assisting in the deportation of the foreign lovers of domestic gays, the extradition of people threatened by prosecution under the anti-gay laws of other states, and suits by the military to recoup scholarship money from those who were kicked out for being gay).

Morse concluded by suggesting that "while the board ... is on its sanctuary kick it should consider making San Francisco a sanctuary for native San Franciscans," a group he claims feels "left out."

Mr. Morse, gay natives are included. And straight natives, whose sexual orientation is not against any law, may just want to count their blessings.

In the Feb. 13 issue, *Examiner* columnist David Kirp

wrote, "For people fleeing Central American death squads, or for conscientious objectors fearing prosecution, sanctuary means something. But for homosexuals?"

In Kirp's mind, the proposal is "one more statement that gays are a force to contend with. Once, that message needed to be broadcast. But in these times, with the war setting priorities, this idea seems self-indulgent."

Kirp, bigotry doesn't take a break for war. Gays organized into a "force to contend with" to contend with this bigotry, not to toot horns. We did it because nobody else did it for us ... so who's self-indulgent?

Kirp tells gays what we should do: "make common cause with children and blacks, the handicapped and the medically indigent and the homeless," and "speak out for social justice" and not just our "own narrow cause."

Kirp, we can and will think for ourselves, thank you. We don't feel like a narrow cause. Our issues are issues of social justice.

And Kirp, Queer Nation, the original source of the sanctuary proposal, is not a "militant AIDS group," for Pete's sake. Wake up!

On Feb. 14 the *Examiner* ran a Wiley cartoon that depicted the Board of Supervisors as monkeys playing in a heap of paper. One monkey is depicted saying, "... and sanctuary for people who

hate their parents, and sanctuary for anorexic overeaters, and sanctuary for ..."

Write to Letters to the Editor, *San Francisco Examiner*, 110 5th St., San Francisco, CA 94103.

### 'Newsweek'

The Jan. 7 issue of *Newsweek* magazine contained a short article on books published by Alyson Press for children whose parents are lesbian or gay.

Two books mentioned were *Daddy's Roommate* and *Heather Has Two Mommies*.

The Jan. 14 issue featured an article by Mark Miller on lesbians and gays fighting for the right to stay in the FBI and the military. It focused on FBI special agent Frank Buttino and former U.S. Naval Academy Cadet Joe Steffan and their lawsuits against the government.

The article also mentioned the battles to ban the ROTC from college campuses. It ended by quoting Leonard Matlovich's epitaph: "When I was in the military they gave me a medal for killing two men — and a discharge for loving one."

Let *Newsweek* know that you were glad to see these articles and that you hope to see more coverage of lesbian and gay issues by writing to Richard Smith, Editor-in-Chief, *Newsweek*, 444 Madison Ave., New York, NY 10022, or fax 212-350-4120.

## Daddy's Roommate

WRITTEN AND ILLUSTRATED BY  
Michael Willhoite



### 'Golden Girls'

In the Jan. 12 episode of *The Golden Girls*, the gay brother of regular character Blanche announced his plans to marry his lover. Blanche has trouble accepting her brother's homosexuality, and at one point she asks Dorothy, "I know my brother is gay, but why does he have to date men?" Dorothy replies, "You're not getting the hang of this gay thing, are you?" to which Blanche says, "Well, there must be some homosexuals who date women!" Sophia interjects, "Yeah, they're called lesbians!"

Eventually, Blanche accepts her brother and his relationship with his lover and the three of them embrace affectionately.

Show your support by writing to producers Paul Junger Witt, Susan Harris and Tony Thomas at 846 N. Cahuenga Blvd., Hollywood, CA 90038 or call 213-464-1333.

### 'Soap Opera Weekly'

An article in the Jan. 15 edition of *Soap Opera Weekly*, titled "Why Daytime isn't Gaytime," concludes that "until ignorance and fear are conquered, audiences won't be ready to take on the challenge" of lesbian and gay characters on daytime drama.

The writer, A. Grey LeCuyer, interviewed a number of soap opera writers, producers and creators, who cited a variety of excuses for not introducing a gay character. Some stated that audiences are just not interested in gay characters.

Still others pointed to the absence of existing characters who could plausibly be "made" gay. One writer simply stated that "it's difficult to

maintain a homosexual character as a hero over a period of time."

Those gay or lesbian characters that have appeared on soaps have often reflected society's stereotypes. Women have been represented as lonely and depressed, seeking out lesbianism during their weakest moments.

The only gay character represented as emotionally stable and adjusted to his sexual orientation, for the most part, was Hank Elliot of *As the World Turns*.

At the end of the article, LeCuyer wrote, "For all the strides made by the gay liberation efforts of the '70s, it would seem that homosexuality remains a concept both feared and misunderstood. ... As long as these audience attitudes prevail, homosexuals seem forever doomed to reside in the daytime's dark and lonely off-screen closet, deprived of light by narrow-mindedness and bigotry, kept there by ignorance and intolerance."

To commend LeCuyer, write to A. Grey LeCuyer, *Soap Opera Weekly*, 41 West 25th Street, New York, NY 10010 or call 212-645-2100.

### 'Sally Jessy Raphael'

The Jan. 14 edition of the *Sally Jessy Raphael Show* featured a panel discussion of lesbian stereotypes. Model Alexis McKensie, comedienne Suzanne Westhoeven, actress Shelly Mars, video producer Jocelyn Taylor and Dr. Marjorie Hill, the New York City Mayor's Office's liaison to the lesbian and gay community, spoke out against lesbian invisibility, violence against gays and lesbians, and the in-

(Continued on page 31)

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# Bay Area Reporter Greater Bay News



## Safe Sex

Lucas Romero, a volunteer at Stanford's Safer Sex Shoppe, sits surrounded by boxes of condoms that are sold to students. The Stanford AIDS Education Project sponsors this activity and also brings the safe sex message to the dorms with traveling exhibits of supplies and information.

(Photo: Rick Gerharter)

## Visiting Nurse Intervention Program

The Visiting Nurse Association AIDS Project now has an Early Intervention Program providing support, information, referrals and social work case management to residents of Santa Clara County living with HIV disease and to their families and loved ones. Aspects of case management include benefits counseling; linkage with community resources; psycho-social counseling; education (updates on HIV disease, safer sex practices, nutrition); and client advocacy. Early intervention counseling provides information on options available for a person who is HIV positive. With medical monitoring, preventive measures, timely intervention, education and support, a person can make informed decisions on how to utilize existing resources in order to best care for him/herself. This self-determination can have a positive effect on one's physical and emotional well-being, as well as overall quality of life. For more information, call Diane Brayman at (408) 452-1380.

## Stanford Trustees Reaffirm Support for Partners Housing

by Keith Clark

Stanford University's Board of Trustees, following strong student reaction against the university's new domestic partners housing policy, has given the policy a "vote of confidence" that is in keeping with its "long-standing policy of non-discrimination."

Last year the university officially implemented a domestic partners policy that gives unmarried couples access to campus facilities, student health services and housing equal with married couples.

Strong opposition to the new policy — particularly among foreign graduate students and some alumni — caused the trustees to set up an ad hoc committee to review the policy and to evaluate the university's student housing availability.

The ad hoc group's conclusions that "the domestic partners policy is in line with the pre-existing and quite long-standing policy of non-discrimination that the university has had" were endorsed by the full board of trustees Feb. 12.

The ad hoc committee also

determined that Stanford's family and couples' housing resources were adequate although there continues to be a shortage of housing for single graduate students.

Susan Westerberg Prager, dean of the UCLA Law School and a Stanford trustee, also pointed out that, despite the strong negative reaction on campus to the new policy, only 11 couples had applied for domestic partners benefits since the policy went into effect Oct. 11, and that only one of those was a same-sex couple. ▼

## Marin AIDS Clinic Opening Delayed for Second Time

by Keith Clark

The long-delayed opening of a low-income outpatient AIDS clinic in Marin County has been put off again due to difficulties redesigning the office space where it's to be located.

Mary Joe Buerger, who oversees the county AIDS programs, said the April 1 target date had been set back to July 1.

"The architects and building redesign just couldn't get done by then," she said.

The Marin AIDS Advisory Commission has repeatedly included the creation of such a low-income AIDS clinic among its annual recommendations to the county only to meet a series of delays over the past two years.

At its Nov. 15, 1990, meeting, Dennis Brown, head of the county's Health and Human Services Department, told the increasingly impa-

tient commissioners that he would like to see the clinic open by April.

The commission has estimated that 2,000 Marin County residents have been exposed to AIDS and that over a third of them are low-in-

come or indigent people.

The county has already hired a part-time nurse practitioner and a part-time physician to work on setting up the clinic.

Donna Carfagno of HHS said in addition to the \$50,000 the county is already spending for the two part-time employees, an additional \$50,000 to \$75,000 should also be available to help operate the clinic through existing county funds.

Also, Carfagno said, the county will be receiving an estimated \$340,000 from the state.

The new clinic, when it finally opens, is scheduled to include six examining rooms, two offices, a laboratory and a conference room.

It would make available to low-income residents educational materials, prevention counseling, HIV testing, subsidized drug treatment, case management and other related services. ▼

**The April 1  
target date  
has been set  
back to  
July 1.**

come or indigent people.

The county has registered more than 330 diagnosed cases of AIDS so far and is recording between seven and 10 new cases per month, giving Marin the state's second highest per capita caseload.

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## Media

(Continued from page 4)

ing the panel.

Greenman was frequently critical, citing a year of meetings with the station in which there was much stalling, especially on including gay comedy on the nationally televised program *Comedy Tonight*.

Casey described the demonstration that occurred at the comedy club where a taping of the show was to take place as an unfortunate, counterproductive incident that merely provided the oth-

er TV stations with 10 seconds of sensational footage.

She labeled that kind of protest "cutting off your nose to spite your face."

However, there was general agreement among the panelists that pressure must still be applied. Madsen said that, while violence doesn't work, groups such as ACT UP can accomplish a lot. He gave an example of a mayor, who was reluctant to move on gay issues, confronting the gay group in a scene that he would rather not have on the evening news.

Plante cited the instance of Health and Human Services Secretary Louis Sullivan being booed at the International AIDS Conference and declaring that he "would no longer work with 'those people.'" But then six months later, he removed the immigration restriction on HIV-infected people, the very thing the protesters were after.

Madsen dealt with the effects of advertising and the pressures that can be applied to change damaging images. He used the example of the Nut 'n' Honey cereal commercials, which initially used situations ridiculing gays and depicted violence against a man mistakenly thought to be gay. Viewer response, backed by advertisers, stopped those particular ads.

Madsen also pointed out that the kind of product boycotting that right wingers employ has been repeatedly demonstrated as ineffective.

*Wall Street Journal* polls were the source of this information. Madsen called attention to *Talk Back*, a book by the Gay and Lesbian Media group in Boston and published by Alyson in 1982, as a guide to effective media influence.

The issue of "balance" in TV presentation was shown to be a double-edged sword. Ginger Casey told of preparing her documentary *All About Cleve*, about Cleve Jones, the founder of the NAMES Project.

A station executive questioned her about balance, suggesting that a certain gay-hating bishop in Sacramento could be used to give a contrasting view. Casey, who by that time was a great admirer of Jones, countered by asking if the KKK would be used for contrast in a program about Danny Glover's success in Hollywood.

Casey also gave an instance of how viewer protests sometimes even out over the long run. She interviewed the promoter of National Condom Week at Stanford, where there were some comparisons done on condoms. The start of this episode was humorous but concluded with the importance of condom use. The first people who called in were outraged, but the letters that came later were mostly supportive.

Plante was asked if a policy could be used in TV news preparation in which the views of the group portrayed

would be routinely solicited. He replied, "There is no policy. Newsrooms are chaotic. It's a wonder that newspapers are produced and news programs get on the air."

He recommended instead that concerned individuals and groups cultivate stations and news people with whom they feel comfortable and stay in touch with them.

"Coverage is the lifeblood of the news business," he emphasized. "News people need contacts in the community."

Numerous examples of how to monitor and use the media came from the audience: keep watch on the creation and operation of cable channels in which gay programming could be established; threaten stations with immediate reports to the FCC if there is no prompt attempt to correct erroneous broadcasting; and get gay groups to go public on mainstream media, like the Seattle Gay Men's Chorus soliciting for funds on their local PBS station.

Near the conclusion, the panel was asked about homophobia in the newsroom. Plante replied that now no one "has the guts to say it to your face."

A surprising but revealing conclusion was agreed on by all five panelists: negative coverage is preferable to no coverage. Plante capped it all with a quote from the British author A.A. Milne: "Even bad breath is better than none." ▼

## Wolfe

(Continued from page 17)

barrassed the (attorney general's) department."

The worker was charged with unacceptable performance in handling the Wolfe Trust case and told that his audit inquiries into the personal life of Edgar Wolfe were "inappropriate and potentially embarrassing to the attorney general."

In State Personnel Board documents filed in the employee's appeal of a demotion based on his handling of the Wolfe case (and for other reasons), the executive officer ruled that although the Wolfe estate executor had complained that the auditor had asked "personal questions about the life and intentions of Edgar Wolfe III," the questions were appropriate—as an administrative law judge had ruled—because the auditor had been given a memo when he was assigned to the case to discuss Wolfe's intent with the attorney and with the

drafter of the will, his cousin, to obtain whatever information he could about the deceased's intent.

In other words, it wasn't to be a rubber stamp "got to have it today" approval, but a routine and thorough audit, the auditor's attorney told the *Bay Area Reporter*.

The auditor also "reason-

proposed beneficiary, Open Hand was a charity consistent with Wolfe's intent.

But the auditor also discovered what he believed to be an error in the executor's calculations in determining the amount due Open Hand and had correspondence from the bank handling the Wolfe account.

The auditor's attorney says there is a "vast disparity" between the auditor's figures and the \$225,000 figure determined by the executor.

The State Personnel Board decided that the department "wrongfully considered" that the auditor had mishandled the Wolfe matter.

The State Personnel Board also ruled that the "department did not provide a court order or any other documentation to establish that the questions the auditor was asked to investigate had already been determined by a court."

According to Project Open Hand materials, the \$225,000 Wolfe Trust bequest was used to help purchase the agency's building at 2720 17th St. ▼

### The auditor discovered that Wolfe died of AIDS and that as a proposed beneficiary, Open Hand was a charity consistent with Wolfe's intent.

ably understood" that he was to ascertain whether \$225,000 was the value of the AIDS trust, according to the ruling.

In conducting the investigation as instructed, the auditor discovered that Wolfe died of AIDS and that as a

## Friday

(Continued from page 9)

Faced with Proposition 140 staff cuts, the state Senate last week voted to limit the number of bills members could introduce to a total of 40 per session, thereby avoiding the ever-expanding avalanche of bills senators like to introduce so they can list them on their reelection propaganda.

U.S. Rep. Pat Schroeder (D-Colo.), probably best known for breaking into a crying jag during a news conference she called to announce she was not a candidate for president in the last presidential election, will be guest speaker Feb. 22 at 11:30 a.m. at the Commonwealth Club in the St.



U.S. Rep. Pat Schroeder

Francis Hotel. Her speech is entitled "Challenges of the 1990s." Call 597-6705 for info and reservations.

Kim Burton, daughter of Assemblymember John Burton and a member of the County Democratic Central Com-

mittee, is now an attorney on the staff of Public Defender Jeff Brown.

Not only has the cost of running for elective office gotten out of hand—Feinstein and Wilson spent a combined \$42 million in 1990—but running for party chair is also expensive. Phil Angelides, running for state Democratic chair at next month's convention, is expected to spend up to \$200,000 to get the post, while his opponent, party Controller Mitch Fine, is expected to spend \$100,000.

Assessor Richard Hongisto reportedly is still seriously considering a run for mayor. Lesbian leaders Kay Tsenin, Pat Norman, Mary Dunlap, Phyllis Lyon and Del Martin are among the growing list of activists urging Hongisto to get into the mayoral race. ▼



# Health Calendar

## FRIDAY

**AIDS and ARC Switchboard:** For information and support, the switchboard is operated by people with AIDS. Hours: Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m.-6 p.m.; Sat., 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Call 861-7309.

**Young Gay Men's Rap Group:** For those 23 and under. This is a non-therapy group conceived and conducted by gay & bisexual young men. 7-9 p.m. MCC, 150 Eureka, SF. 863-4434.

**Living Well With AIDS/ARC:** Support group based on Attitudinal Healing Principles. 1-3 p.m. Rest Stop, 134 Church, SF. 621-REST.

## SATURDAY

**Women's AIDS Hotline:** Call Saturdays, 9 a.m.-12 noon. Saturday support group, 12-1 p.m. Diablo Valley AIDS Center. Call 686-DVAC.

**Women's Clinic:** Call at 8:30 a.m. for same day appointment. Pap smears, STDs, bladder & pregnancy testing, and other services. Health care by and for women. Berkeley Free Clinic, 548-2570.

## SUNDAY

**Afternoon Tea:** Come play board games and socialize. 2-7 p.m. For PWA/PWARC/PWHIVs. Free. Rest Stop, 134 Church, SF. 621-REST.

**Men's Clinic:** STDs, scabies, NGUs, lice, venereal warts, etc., testing and treatment. AIDS/ARC counseling and referrals. Free and confidential. 6-8 p.m. Gay Men's Health Collective, 2339 Durant Ave., Berkeley. 644-0425.

## MONDAY

**Self Healing Workshop:** For HIV+/PWARC/PWAs, caregivers, friends & lovers. Focus on meditative & stress management techniques. Mondays, 7-9 p.m., at Davies Medical Center's Gazebo Room. Call Erik Wheaton at AIDS Health Project, 476-3990.

**Women's Health Group:** Support and discussion group for physical, mental and emotional issues of women's health. 7:30-9 p.m. MCC, 150 Eureka, SF. 863-4434.

**Gay & Lesbian Grief Support Group:** Focus is on losses incurred within the last 3-12 months. Mondays, 7-8:30 p.m. Vesper Center, 311 MacArthur Blvd, San Leandro. Call Nancee, 632-4390.

**Bay Area Youth Positives (BAY+):** Support group for adolescents and young adults dealing with HIV, AIDS & ARC. 6:30 p.m. at 1855 Folsom, SF. Call Julie, 386-4615, or Scott, 821-8764.

**AIDS Family Project:** Ongoing group for teens (ages 14-18) who have HIV+ family members. Stacey Shuster, PhD, 626-7000.

## TUESDAY

**Asian Gay Men's Support Group:** 6:30-8 p.m. The Pacific Center, 2712 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley. 548-8283.

**Lesbian Psychotherapy Group:** 5:30-7 p.m. Operation Concern, 1853 Market, SF. Call 626-7000 for appointment.

## WEDNESDAY

**Showing Your True Colors:** A support group for people with visible ailments associated with AIDS (wasting syndrome, lymphoma, KS, etc.) meets Wednesdays. Call Peter for more info, 863-7958.

**Evening Lectures on A Course in Miracles:** Meditation & discussion led by Frank A. Tiberi. Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m., at First Unitarian Church, 1187 Franklin & Geary, SF. California Miracles Center sponsors, 621-2556.

**Open Support Group for Women with HIV:** 6:30-8:30 p.m. Supervised childcare provided. The Women's Bldg, 1843 18th St., SF. Carlin, 921-3680.

**Living Well With AIDS/ARC:** Support group based on Attitudinal Healing Principles. 1-3 p.m. Rest Stop, 134 Church, SF. 621-REST.

**HIV+/AIDS/ARC Support Group:** Drop-in group facilitated by Rick Weatherly & Randy Nennelee. 7:30 p.m. MCC, 150 Church, SF. 863-4434.

## THURSDAY

**At Anon for Black Gays & Lesbians:** Thursdays, 7:30-8:45 p.m., at Bethany United Methodist Church, 1268 Sanchez, SF (entrance on Clipper). Call 626-5634 or 995-2581.

**African American HIV+/ARC/AIDS Support Group:** Gain independence and reduce isolation and make better use of AIDS services. Thursdays at 5:30 p.m. SF AIDS Foundation, 25 Van Ness, 3rd floor smoking lounge, SF. 864-4376.

**Insurance/Employee Benefits Clinic:** Thursdays at 6:15, 7 & 7:45 p.m. Free 45-min. private session with an attorney on benefits, COBRA and insurance problems. AIDS Legal Referral Panel, 25 Hickory/Van Ness, SF. 864-8186.

**ARC Drop-In For PWAs:** Support, information and stress reduction. 6-8 p.m. Health Center 1, 3850 17th St./Noe, Rm. 201, SF. 626-7000.

**HIV+ Drop-In Group for Men and Women Testing Positive:** 6-8 p.m. Operation Concern, 1853 Market, SF. 626-7000.

# Family

(Continued from page 5)

to add that into our program if we need to do that. We're open to that; it's not a problem. But I would hope that ... you can see a broader perspective of what we're trying to do other than just the fact that we left out one of the issues."

Jessie Greenman, co-chair of GLAAD/SFBA, is taking Jaffe up on the offer and has been busy this past week try-

ing to locate people who can participate in the conference.

Greenman also said that Jaffe had offered to let activists have the one remaining booth in the conference if a commercial service doesn't rent it.

Even so, Greenman admits the last-minute nature of the added participation of lesbian/gay speakers would probably have little impact because there had been no outreach to the community and publicity about activist participation would be minimal.

Despite initial concerns

about being excluded from Family 2000, activists with Queer Nation/SF have since dropped the matter because of the concessions made regarding including lesbian/gay spokespersons in three or four of the existing workshops.

The conference is being held from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Feb. 23 and from noon to 5 p.m. on Feb. 24. Organizers are expecting between 2,000 and 3,000 people to attend. Tickets are \$45 for individuals and \$60 for couples. ▼

# GLAAD

(Continued from page 28)

accurate portrayal of lesbians in the media.

Westhoven said, "We are everywhere. Gay people are like Visa and MasterCard. We are everywhere you want to be."

Raphael seemed very comfortable with the show. At the end, she said that the show was "one more step for peoplekind." Support Raphael by writing her at 267

Broadway, New York, NY 10007.

'Geraldo'

The Jan. 9 edition of *Geraldo* featured a panel of (young adult) children of lesbian and gay parents. Four women and two men talked about their experiences with homophobia, their own sexuality, and their relationships with their parents.

Two of the women who had gay mothers discussed their own bisexuality and said that their mothers had feared that they had influenced their daughters' sexuality.

Louise Rafkin, the author of *Different Mothers*, joined the panel to talk about her book on lesbian mothers. Panel members appeared to be well-adjusted people who agreed that homophobia is "ignorant."

At times it seemed that Geraldo dug for more pain than existed, but he was better than we've seen him in the past.

Write to Geraldo Rivera, Investigative News Group, 311 W. 43rd St., New York, NY 10036 or call 212-265-8520. ▼

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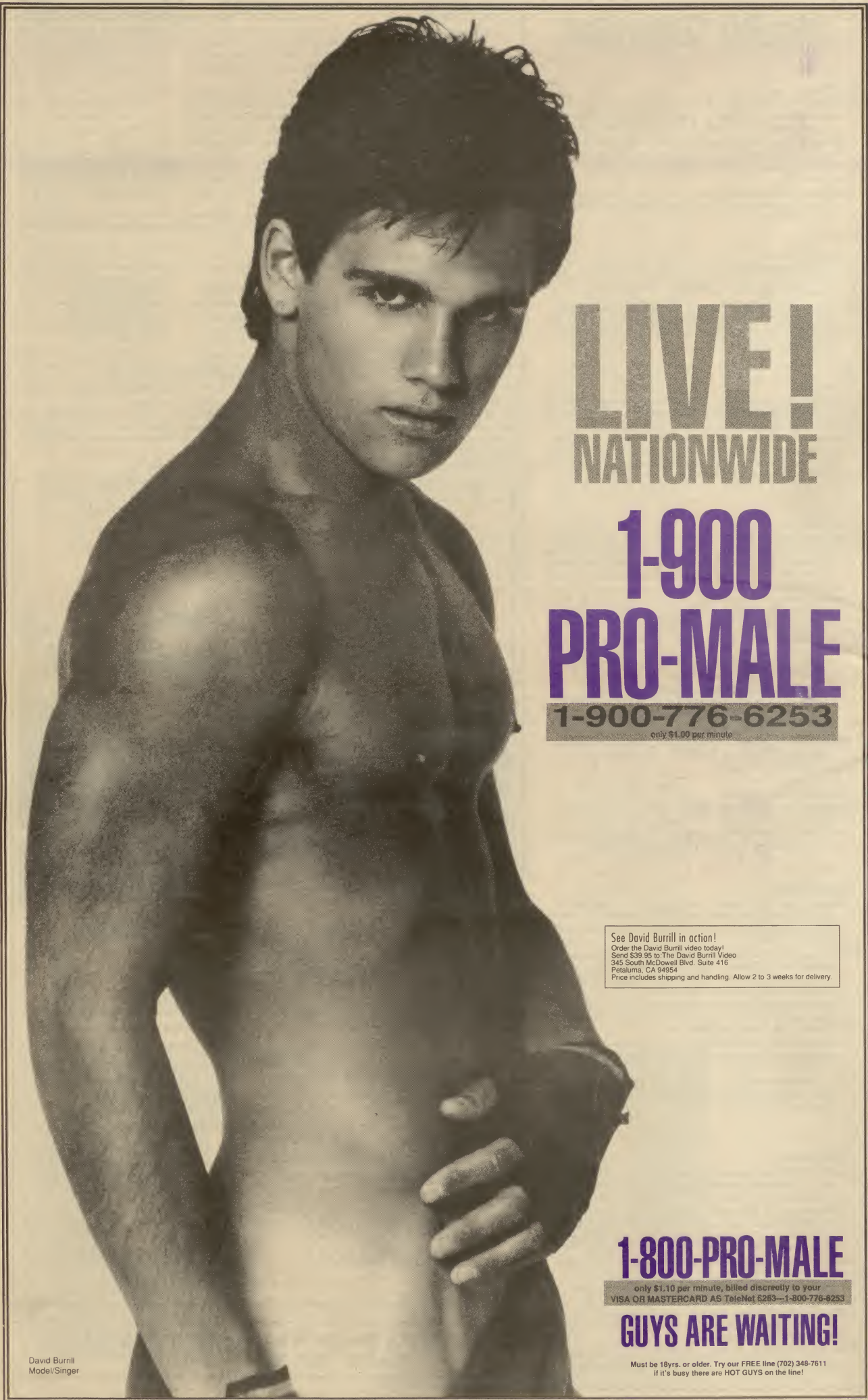
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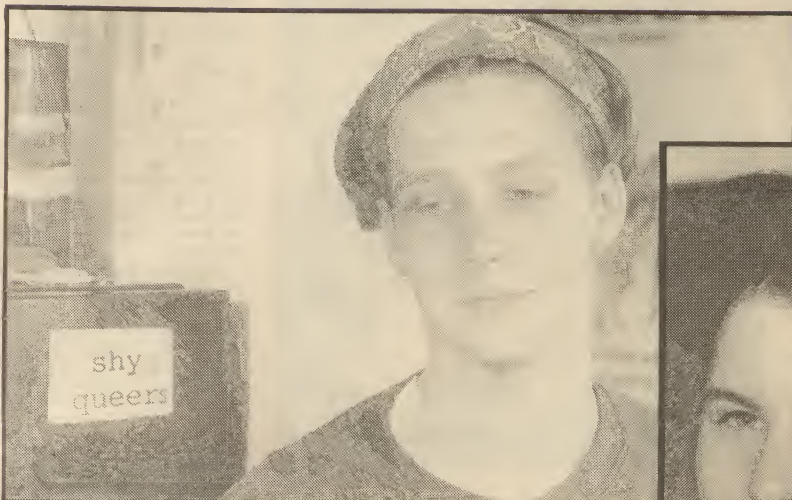
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# Working It Out

Four Young Gays on Coming Out, Sex, Love and 'Community'



Adam Chambers, 18

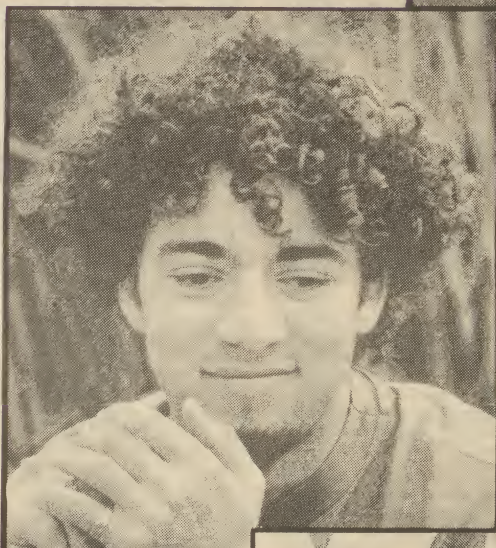
## Getting Sex Out of The Back of My Mind

by Adam Chambers

**T**his piece is about being a young gay person, and about what sex means to me and what love means to me. The memories in the first part of this story are the strongest ones I have from the part of my life up until I was 14. When I was that young I never thought about homosexual feelings as "wrong" or "right," or "sexual" or "not sexual." I only thought about it all a few years later, when I wasn't able to keep my sexuality in the back of my head anymore. And that's what the second part is about, and about self-hatred and freedom from it.

I remember when I was about nine, my older cousin Steve's tan back lit up by the blue TV light in the basement, making shadow marks around his muscles where the bones stuck out. And when he moved around, I remember being fascinated with him and how tightly the muscles were wrapped around him and how

(Continued on page 44)



Steven J.T. Smith, 21

## The Secret's Out

by Olga Texidor

**I** started suspecting that I was a lesbian in the sixth grade. I found myself continually looking at Crystal's sexy legs. Although she was a classmate I had never talked to her, but I found that I thought about her all the time. I remember that these feelings really bothered me because deep down inside I knew I was probably gay and in mid-

dle school that's the last thing you would want to be classified as.

"Faggot" was the most commonly used and most offensive putdown in the whole "vulgar English" vocabulary and it applied to lesbians, too. I didn't hear the word "dyke" too often, but fag implied it.

I didn't try to repress my feelings about girls because

(Continued on page 45)

## Quest For Sisterhood

by Beth R. Pielert

**W**hen I was growing up, I was surrounded by a number of diverse individuals, most of whom were women. Essentially I was raised in a collective fashion. I believe that I was always a lover of women, a lesbian, but I'm sure the wonderful female role models were a great help.

My mother and her women friends were so open, so hip, so sensitive. They would hang out in the kitchen drinking coffee and smoking cigarettes while discussing politics, literature and women's liberation. It was

(Continued on page 44)



Beth R. Pielert, 19

## In and Out of The Mainstream

by Steven J.T. Smith

**I** have been "publicly out" for about ten months. One of the first things I did after opening the closet door was to attend the SF gay and lesbian film festival. The concept of "film" has changed significantly for me, and since the festival, I have not been able to see a film without analyzing it in a very different way.

How does the film deal with sexuality? What mes-

sages does it convey? Are they negative or positive? What exactly is a gay film? Is there really such a thing as a gay sensibility? A gay culture?

In the last ten months, film has served greatly as a means of identification, evaluation and validation, but more importantly it has been an example of possibility and a way to see past the walls of my own world.

When I came out, I im-

(Continued on page 46)



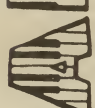
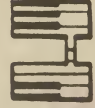
Olga Texidor, 19

(All photos this page: Rick Gerhart)



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# Out/Write '91: New and Improved

## Second National Lesbian/Gay Writers Conference Returns to SF

by Patrick Hoctel

The new and improved National Lesbian and Gay Writers Conference, OUT/Write '91, kicks off next Friday, March 1, at the Cathedral Hill Hotel. This year's confab of lesbian and gay writers has been considerably beefed up. The number of panels is up from about 30 last year to 55, and they range from censorship to spirituality, from film criticism to bisexual visibility, from cartoonists to the war in the Persian Gulf. Over a hundred more panelists are participating this year (approximately 265 total), and 75 percent of them weren't on panels last year.

Recently the B.A.R., in two separate interviews, talked to OUT/Write founder Jeff Escoffier, publisher of OUT/LOOK magazine, which has sponsored both conferences, and Lisa Kahaleole Chang Hall, who has helped coordinate both conferences and is this year's official panel coordinator. Our questions touched on the goals of OUT/Write, its history, problems and successes.

\* \* \*

Tell us about the origins of the conference.

JE: In the whole process of trying to create a (lesbian and gay) magazine that was one of commentary and serious in-depth articles that also had a wide range of cultural contributors from poetry, fiction and humor, we found that there were no pre-existing networks of writers that we could just plug into. So we had to start from scratch.

And it was partly out of the experience of forging those initial bonds that the idea for a writers conference emerged. We felt that we needed a larger community and that there was a kind of maturity in the lesbian and gay writing community that wasn't recognized.

What do you see as the primary goal or goals of the conference? What are you trying to accomplish with it?

LH: Primarily, it's two things. I don't think conferences necessarily accomplish concrete goals; basically they're tools for networking and organizing. They provide opportunities for people to link up.

The other goal — one that overlaps with the first — is to try to get as wide a range of people as possible given the



Writers conference organizers Jeffrey Escoffier and Lisa Kahaleole Chang Hall.  
(Photo: Rick Gerharter)

resources that we have available, because there are so many different lesbian and gay worlds and lesbian and gay writing worlds. The things that cut into that, of course, are financial and institutional constraints.

JE: This comes back to my belief that there was a maturity in the lesbian and gay community (that wasn't recognized). I saw the writers conference as bringing together as many people as we could — all the lesbian and gay writers from all the different currents and communities — to be able to talk to each other. So that we could become an ever more coherent community with open channels of communication that weren't there.

Everyone was off in their rooms writing their essays, their novels, their short stories, their poetry, but there have been almost no places where lesbian and gay writers could get together and meet — and this was that place.

The first conference last year was such a huge success and the response so overwhelmingly favorable, are you worried about a letdown this year, a honeymoon-is-over syndrome setting in?

JE: Oh, it's entirely possible. I don't think it will happen, but it will be hard to match the expectations created by last year's success. However, we've actually managed to make headway in a lot of different directions this time, although the conference probably won't have the same euphoria of discovery as it did last year since it was the first.

Also, we had plenary sessions last year, but this year we've outgrown our space and are not able to have more than one plenary. And because of that, I don't think it (the conference) will come to-

gether in quite the way it did in '90.

But the range of workshops and panels this year is much greater, plus we have many more separate communities recognized on panels — Chicano/Chicana writing, Native-American writing, Jewish writing, bisexual writing, Mexican, Latina. So the variety and diversity of the community are much better represented this time around.

What do you consider the most successful aspect of last year's conference?

LH: The conference's biggest success was the joyous experience it provided most people. Overall, I've never felt — I don't know — such excitement. Everyone felt like something incredible was happening, and they were a part of it.

The most valuable thing was that the conference brought a lot of people who were feeling isolated and politically depressed in their lives as writers — which is very individual much of the time — together. They realized that there were all these other people and became very excited by each other. There weren't these divisions between writers and readers and publishers; it was this whole huge writing community phenomenon, people being exposed to and supporting each other.

JE: Besides bringing everyone together for the first time, the second most powerful aspect was the bridging of generations. The keynote speakers (Judy Grahn and Allen Ginsberg) and a number of the panelists were writers who'd started writing way before Stonewall ... pioneers, people who'd made seminal contributions far in advance of the existence of a gay movement. That those people were there and were recog-

nized by the younger people and vice versa gave everyone a feeling of solidarity and being understood.

The third big component of success was the male-female thing. A lot of writers — men who had not read women and women who had not read men — heard each other for the first time, realized they were saying interesting things, and were going off and reading each other's books.

Conversely, what do you consider the conference's weakest point?

JE: The major shortcoming I was aware of was that there were still whole bodies of writing that were left out of the conference: historical writing, non-fiction writing of various kinds, genre writing ... like romances, screen writing, song writing, journalism.

A standard complaint was that our representation of minorities was weak.

That's my next question. How well has the conference fulfilled its aim of having gender and racial parity on the panels?

JE: This year we've done better (with racial parity). There are a small minority of panels that have no person of color on them. We got a grant from the Collin Higgins Trust to increase our outreach, and we've used it for that. Half our travel fund has gone to guarantee the presence of writers of color at the conference.

LH: I have a problem with the word "parity" being used with racial, because to me parity means that there's roughly an equal amount of people. And that didn't happen (last year) and that still has not happened.

Gender parity, yeah. That was one of the biggest accomplishments of the 1990 conference. I had several people who were longtime community activists and politicians say they were really astonished at how well the combination of men and women did work. On that level, like OUT/LOOK magazine, it's one of the more successful examples of gay men and lesbians working together.

But in terms of promoting racial diversity, two issues are involved.

First, the planning committee itself needs to be racially diverse, which it hasn't been either this year or last. That leads into the second problem — letting people know that this (the conference) is going on and asking them to be a part of it.

To do that, there needs to be a responsible, accountable structure set up, both to get new people involved and to get clearly defined procedures for what gets included, who gets included and whatever else. That's very difficult to accomplish on a volunteer basis because it takes a lot of time and energy and you've got people with very different ideas and agendas about what the conference should be working together without a defined structure.

Editor's note: For more information about the OUT/Write conference, see next week's B.A.R., or phone 626-3334. ▼



# Furthering the Queer Juggernaut

## Absolut Man pussy Is Their Name, Playing With Gender Is Their Game

by John F. Karr

While it's perhaps only mildly disconcerting to run into a word like "man pussy" while having sex, it seems flagrantly shocking, ludicrously PI, when encountered in the name of a performing group. Yet the three members of Absolut Man pussy, who will be presenting the premiere of a new work along with two other pieces in performances this weekend as part of the New Langton Arts series called "Aberrant Behavior," don't find it scandalous at all. To Darrell-Lynn Alvarez, Philip Horvitz and Christian Huygen, it's a perfect fit.

It was Alvarez who divined the title. "I wanted to come up with the most blatantly queer name," he explains, "since our first performance was for an event at Fagworks."

Getting in kind of deep, Alvarez theorizes, "Man pussy is a receptacle; we are a man pussy to culture. But a receptacle is thought of as passive, and Absolut is unbudging. It's like we are actively bottom. We are an Absolut Man pussy because we only take the parts we want."

Horvitz chimes in, "Our name reflects that we play around with gender."

Absolut Man pussy began playing around last year. Alvarez and Huygen were already friends when Horvitz heard Huygen at a reading and asked the author if he wanted to write a piece Horvitz could perform. Shortly thereafter, Alvarez realized that his ideas for a piece to be presented at an evening of queer performances would work better as a trio than a solo.

Thus Absolut Man pussy and their first piece, *Something Really Deep*, were born. The work took climactic quotes from the probing celebrity interviews found in *Interview*, and the trio set their adroitly random recitation to a snappy disco beat, adding to its chorus of "Shoo-ee doo-ee doo-wop," the giddy effects of a mirror ball, suitably trendy slide projections and artsy body language. All of which begged the questions of how we see ourselves and how important is gender.

### Basic Question

It was literary cabaret and intellectual buffoonery, a post-modern gay theatrical in which the slice and dice of gay culture posed the basic question — what is faggotry? And what do you expect from three queer activists who are the curator of a gay and lesbian reading program, an author and a legal assistant? Mud wrestling?

The group's second piece, *29 Sexual Positions*, was created for the Dancing Against Indifference benefit at Theatre Artaud as an introduction and in homage to Joe Goode's *29 Effeminate Ges-*

tures.

"In it," says Alvarez, "I recite the prison sentences for sodomy and oral sex in various states as the others illustrate ludicrous sexual positions."

Both these works will be

**"Man pussy is a receptacle ... but a receptacle is thought of as passive ... we are actively bottom."**

presented this weekend at New Langton, along with the premiere of Man pussy's most ambitious work to date: *Pete Townshend: The Opera*. This opus takes a springboard leap off the rock musician's recent announcement of bisexuality. It sets cunningly appropriate quotes from Townshend's lyrics and interviews, as well as juicy highlights from 2 Isaiah, Genesis and the books of Lamentations and Job, against the dazzling musical backdrop of Lucian Berio's *Sinfonia*.

Townshend deserves honorary Man pussy status because his declarations of what is and is not faggotry are absolutely Man pussy territory. "I know how it feels to be a woman, and I won't be classified 'just a man,'" Townshend cries while Berio booms. In what is essentially a parody of the interview format, the Man pussies use Townshend's words to explore on a baroque level — at least for them — the violence of men's stances, of their leather jackets and jeans.

The median Man pussy age is 28. Darrell-Lynn Alvarez is a native of Stockton who works at A Different Light Bookstore, and was trained in set design and the technical end of theatre. "I came here in '83 or '84, and thought it would be a steppingstone to New York."

Christian Huygen came from Pittsburgh. Perhaps his articulate voicing of the group's sometimes nebulous aims, making him their unofficial spokesperson, comes from his background as a writer and solo performer.

Philip Horvitz, who works as a legal assistant, is the self-appointed Man pussy court jester. "Although I came from Washington, D.C., to get away from acting, the first thing I did here was take a job as an actor."

D-L: It was a fluke that we got together.

PH: And very much in the spirit of playfulness.

CH: We aim at pleasure as a bottom line.

PH: Sitting in the audience had ceased to be fun for me.

CH: I wondered where the goodies were, where the payoff was.

PH: There's this idea that if something is fun, it can't have any craft. If it's smart, it'll be too long or dense.

D-L: We'd like to be funny and smart. Entertainment is the canvas on which we're trying to paint our themes — the play of masculinity and femininity. How important is gender? We're standing very frivolously in the middle.

CH: I didn't own any dresses when I met Darrell, and now I have 12. ... As queers we exist within infinite unresolvable contradictions, because what our hearts tell us is in opposition to what society tells us. So we try and present these contradictions, in the most urgent and entertaining ways we can.

D-L: We don't pretend to know what people are going to get. We use the quotes we like, and people say they like what we have to say.



Post-modern gay theatrics from Absolut Man pussy, from left: Christian Huygen, Darrell-Lynn Alvarez and Philip Horvitz.

(Photo: Craig Goodman)

CH: A lot of it is exploration, celebrating queerness and what it can be and mean. Cultural work like this is important. It's how we make images for our community of what we are. The '90s are going to be the decade of the unstoppable queer juggernaut, and we want to do everything we can to further that. We're breaking our culture into fragments, then trying to expose the subtext that runs through those fragments. We

are editing queer culture into a very condensed format, where we can see the allusions and references.

PH: I won't rest until I see Absolut Man pussy up on a billboard over the highway.

D-L: My desire is that MTV will refuse our video.

Editor's note: Since the video hasn't been made yet, you'll have to catch Absolut Man pussy live at New Langton Arts, Feb. 21-23, 626-5416.

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Billy Wilder Retrospective at the Castro

# Unique Brand of Venom

by Warren Sonbert

**B**illy Wilder, subject of a two-week retrospective at the Castro Theatre Feb. 22-Mar. 7, is the most cynical of Hollywood directors. And since nothing dates quicker than sentiment, his films have held up remarkably well — especially with hard-boiled critics. A more cynical lot has yet to surface on this earth.

A true auteur in terms of style, writing and vocal pace, Wilder stops just this short of greatness, of originality, of essentiality. At his best, in *Double Indemnity*, *One, Two, Three*, *Sunset Boulevard*, *The Big Carnival* and *Kiss Me Stupid*, and to a lesser degree in some of the comedies, Wilder was a force of intellect imposing his own vision on the studio system. At his least inspired, the pictorial momentum just isn't strong enough to sustain *ne plus ultra* cinema.

After penning delightful scripts for other directors at Paramount (Leisen's *Midnight* in 1939) and MGM (Lubitsch's *Ninotchka* the same year), Wilder graduated to his own set of jodhpurs and megaphone with the piquant *The Major and the Minor* (1942), which initiated one of his major themes of transvestism as disguise. Matters went so well with Ray Milland that they teamed again for *The Lost Weekend* (1945).



Bravura turn for Swanson in *Sunset Boulevard*.

Milland and Wilder nabbed Oscars, but the director was forced by a timid Paramount to ignore the reason given for the hero's alcoholism in the Charles Jackson novel: homosexuality. In those days substance abuse was enough of an "adult" subject for audiences to fret over — homosexuality couldn't even exist.

## Inimitable Style

But *Double Indemnity* (1944) (the Castro's first-week mainstay) marked the inimitable Wilder style. Reworking the James Cain book and sharing script credits with Raymond Chandler, Wilder fashioned a classic LA "hard-

boiled and decadent." The first posttitle image of a sewer worker engaged in nighttime repair becomes an emblem for the film to come.

Heroine Barbara Stanwyck's coiled pussycat, sleek and feral, was one of her signature roles. Anything in pants gets thrown in bed and then for a loop — all with the cold-blooded assurance of the echt femme fatale.

Unlike Raoul Walsh, whose good girls turned bad and bad girls were discovered to possess a near saintly undercore, Wilder's hussies and mantraps only got fouler as the story progressed. Stanwyck's Phyllis Dietrichson and Gloria Swanson's epic Norma Desmond in *Sunset Boulevard* (1950) were larger-than-life gargoyles but fixed in a tumid intransigence.

Is there a woman in the entire Wilder canon that transcends gross caricature? As grateful as one is for the bravura turns of Swanson, Monroe, Stanwyck and Dietrich, not one is rounded or supple; they are as exaggerated and unlovely as the director's brittle sentiments.

But the men display more dichotomies, more compelling splits. Both *Double Indemnity* and *Sunset Boulevard* are narrated in flashback by men who are dying or already dead (and here, for once, Wilder influenced a future cinematic play — the comatose

(Continued on page 52)



Carmen Maura plays a "tender, good person" in her new film, *Ay Carmela*.

Carmen Maura on Film, Almodovar and America

# Like a Soccer Star

by Warren Sonbert

**O**n the occasion of the appearance of the new Carlos Saura film *Ay Carmela*, the story of two vaudeville performers who get caught up in the Spanish Civil War, I had the chance to chat on the phone with its star, the great Spanish actress Carmen Maura.

The same humor, spirit and brilliant warmth that shine through in her film appearances were evident over the wires.

Asked why she took on the role in the historical drama, Maura replied, "Carmela is a beautiful character, and it's a piece of great theatre. I said yes in the first moment when it was offered to me. She's such a tender, good person. It was also amusing, as it was the first time I sing on film. Saura wanted me for the film. We both respected each other a lot."

Maura is most well-known, particularly in America, for her films with Pedro Almodovar, including *Law of Desire*, *What Have I Done to Deserve This?* and *Women on the Verge of a Nervous Breakdown*.

As Saura's working methods differ greatly from Almodovar's, Maura had some adjusting to do:

"These two (Saura and Almodovar) were more different than any other directors I've worked with. We had two months of rehearsal and Carlos is very serious. In fact, at first I thought, Carlos Saura—how boring, but then we became very sympathetic and remain great friends."

## Friends Again

As for Almodovar, with whom she had a well-publicized falling out, the two are friends again.

"He called me here (in Los Angeles) yesterday," Maura said. "I hope in a year or two we can work with each other again. It's just good that we spend some time off from each other."

I asked Maura what her favorite role to date has been, and the answer was a bit of a surprise.

"Tina, the transsexual in *Law of Desire*. Pedro made me feel like a queen — royalty,

I mean. I asked Pedro if I should go around and follow a transsexual, but he says, 'No you don't have to.' Something happens with the character in your soul, not with mirrors."

*Ay Carmela* is about the Spain of Franco. The actress finds her country much more free — freer than America, she says.

"I'm happy with the freedom in Spain (today). I think we are now more free there than you are here. Less prejudiced than here. In Spain to be homosexual is not a problem — unlike here."

"Here" there is also "too much competition," the reason Maura prefers to work in Europe.

Our talk about America inevitably led to the current war in the Persian Gulf. I asked her how she and the people in Spain felt about it, and she replied, "Ninety percent of the people don't want the war. Everyone is sad and afraid. They remember the civil war — they are hoarding food — but this situation is different."

## Theatre Vs. Film

As for the theatre versus film, Maura, who is unmarried ("I made that mistake once, but I have been in love with a man for 12 years"), said, "I worked 10 years in theatre when I began. Now cinema is more enjoyable. I like to work with a crew. It's more amusing to do it just once."

"My next film will be in Barcelona, and it's a black comedy called *Trash*, in which I play the best prostitute in town. After that I will do a film in Belgium in French with a woman director. And then a costume historical film in which I'll play the mother of Louis XIV!"

Maura's fame is growing in America, but, in Spain her relationship with her audience is already solid.

"The Spanish people love me a lot," she said. "I have a warm relationship with them, and they are very proud of me. I'm like a soccer star."

**Editor's note:** Carmen Maura's *Ay Carmela* opens Feb. 22 at the Lumiere Theatre at California and Polk streets. For show times, phone 885-3200. ▼

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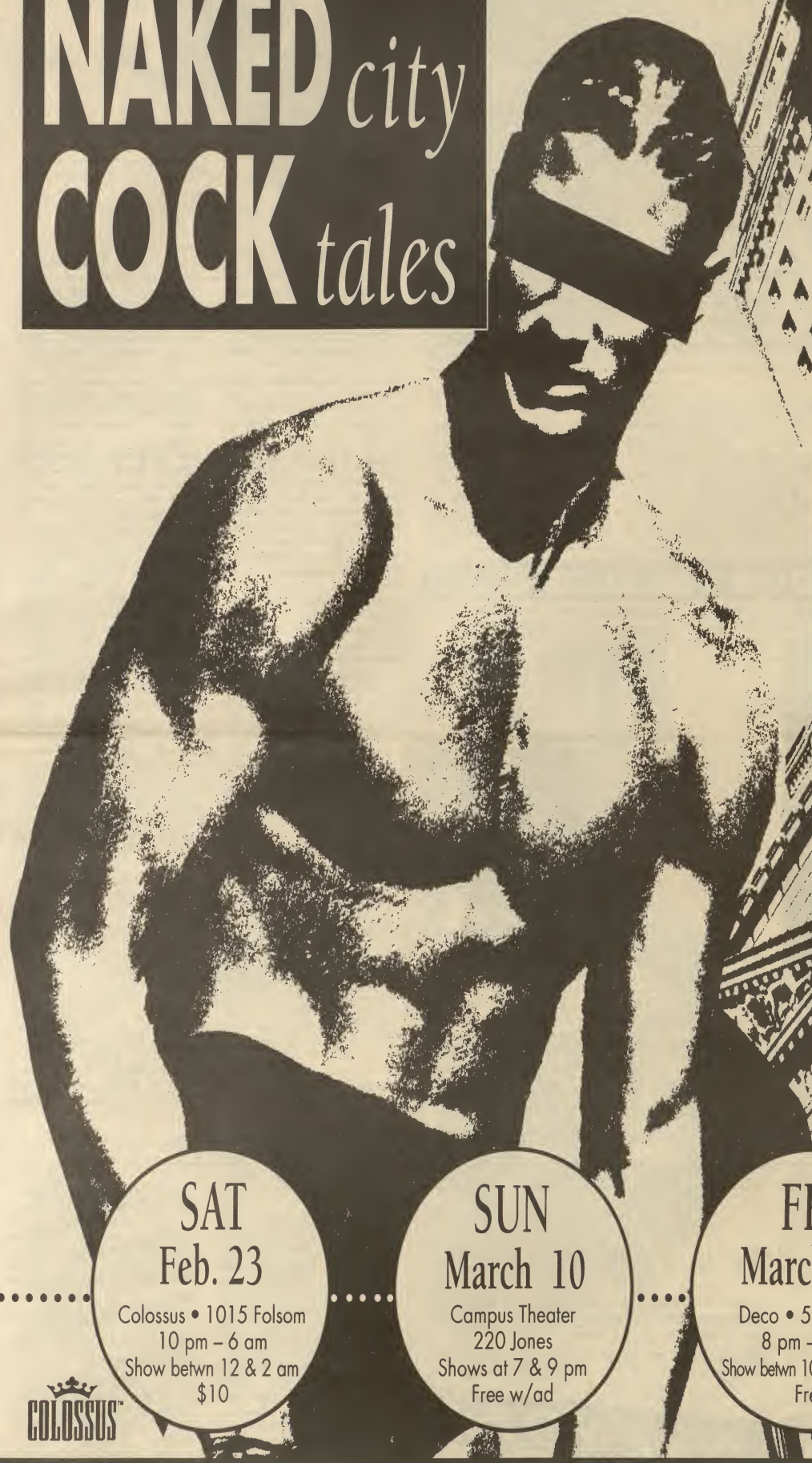
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# Holy Hammer!

by Kate Bornstein

A woman — is it a woman? — looks into the mirror of the compact s/he is holding, while s/he applies lipstick. A man — is it a man? — shaves with an electric razor. Someone else — man, woman? — touches his/her own face.

Common enough images, even for our own gender-blurred community. But there is a difference — we see these people in motion literally through their skins. We see through to their muscles, their bones, their tendons. This is not a cartoon, not claymation, not a cinematic trick.

Veteran, award-winning lesbian film-maker Barbara Hammer has once again made the ordinary extraordinary. Once again, she breaks new cinematic ground — by letting us see yet another heretofore unknown part of ourselves — the body within.

In her most recent film, *Sanctus*, Hammer utilizes found footage of pioneer film-

maker, Dr. James Sibley Watson. Watson shot reels of subjects doing quite ordinary motions, while they were

**Veteran award-winning lesbian filmmaker Barbara Hammer has once again made the ordinary extraordinary.**

standing behind a fluoroscope. (A fluoroscope is a sort of x-ray device that allows a person to view the internal workings of the body in motion. The process of filming this internal motion is called cinefluoroscopy.)

Barbara Hammer is the first person to have discov-



Barbara Hammer, left, and X-ray frame from *Sanctus*.

ered and played this footage since Watson's death.

"No one saw that footage before me," Hammer told the *Bay Area Reporter* last week. "I felt like Nancy Drew!"

What she does with the source reels would have made the good doctor proud. Ham-

mer colorizes the footage, which she throws onscreen with her characteristic rapid-cut technique, utilizing repetitive images, and split-screen edits. Neil Rolnick's delicately digitized, sampled and rescored soundtrack is taken from the "Sanctus" section of the various Masses of Bach, Beethoven, Byrd, and Mechant. The result is an ethereal journey to the land within.

## Sense of Fragile Body

"I want people to get the sense of the fragile body," says Hammer, "the delicacy of it. In this day and age of immune disease, and now the war — it's so important that we know this aspect of ourselves."

Hammer says that she expects the viewer will always have present the knowledge that the persons being filmed were in fact being exposed to disease by radiation. It adds a double edge, she says. In fact, Watson himself died of can-

cer.

Dr. James Sibley Watson, Hammer points out, is the filmmaker who made the first ever gay film in America — *Lot and Sodom*, shot in 1933. *Lot and Sodom* will show with Hammer's film.

The 19-minute *Sanctus* is a brilliant piece of work. Hammer does transform the ordinary body into the combination of vessel and spirit. Little things like gender, politics, and ideology mean very little in the world of the spirit, and Hammer fulfills her role as artist by guiding us into that world.

*Sanctus* will be screened at this year's San Francisco International Film Festival. But you can catch it, and Barbara Hammer in person, at a Cinematheque screening, Thursday, Feb. 28, 8 p.m., at the SF Art Institute, 800 Chestnut St. (558-8129). The showing will be sign language interpreted — the first time this has ever been done at Cinematheque. ▼

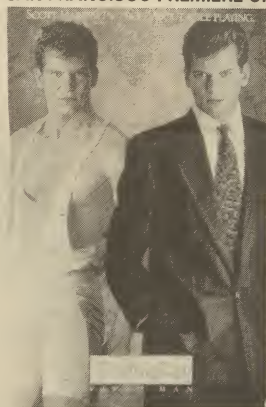
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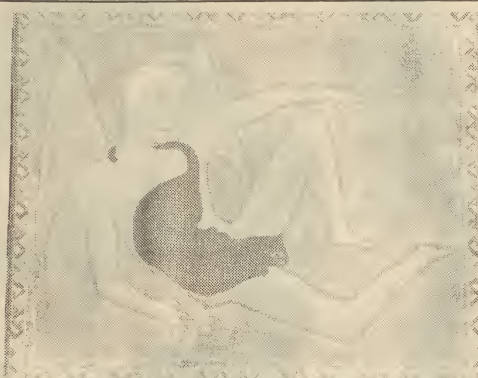
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## VISUAL ARTS



Detail from Jeffrey S Bauer's *Positive*, 1989; acrylic on canvas, wood and metal. (Photo: Rick Gerharter)

## 'Dark' Lite

by D-L Alvarez

"Dark Ages" currently on display at the San Francisco Arts Commission Gallery, had intended to draw parallels between contemporary times and the Middle Ages. As a whole it falls short of its goal, but its stumbling blocks nevertheless create an interesting commentary.

As installed, the show reads more like an interpretation of gold-gelled films about the Middle Ages — an imitation of an imitation. It presents Gothic style and sensibility as fetish objects, laden with implied ritual, "good taste" and obsessive detail.

The artists work like grave robbers, stealing from the crypts of the wealthy of all eras. They take anything they

desire and rearrange these treasures to suit their fancy.

This aesthetic-first approach succeeds in transforming the art gallery into a mock national history museum. The objects displayed are raped of the function they once held. They beg for interaction in a setting which instead holds the viewer at bay.

### Sadly Debilitated

As gallery-encased art, these objects seem sadly debilitated. Most of them call out for a function to complete them.

For example, securing Jeffrey S Bauer's leather jackets to pristine white walls makes them appear more immobile than precious. They are beautifully worked vestments, painted with a rich layering of iconography.

(Continued on page 52)



# Vivid Images

by Marc Huestis

I've hardly seen any new porn in the past two years. After my five-year addiction, I'd just OD'd. The thrill was gone. I'd grown tired of the same old "plot," the same tired "actors" and, on my part, the same half-hard "orgasm." It was time to take a break.

Still, as they say, absence makes the heart grow fonder. When I was asked to write this column, I was kinda excited. After all, two years is a long time, and since so much had changed in the world-at-large perhaps, I thought, so had the world of porn.

My imagination soared. Would there be a bondage scene starring two beautifully buffed activists chained to the FDA? A Queer Nation meeting turning into an orgy? The possibilities seemed endless.

I popped in my first assigned cassette into the VCR with a sense of excitement but, sadly, active anticipation led to flaccid reality. Very little had changed.

I should have been forewarned by the Vivid logo. You know the old adage, "You can't judge a book by its cover"? Well, Vivid's box covers are always flawless. Their marketing department must work overtime. But the product itself is spotty, and bad porn is bad porn is bad porn.

## Big and Shiny

One of their latest is *Hot Summer Knights*. It features stiff porno acting, stinko direction and a really dumb plot. It has something to do with a group of young, stupid, well-endowed, well-off dudes (where do they get their money?).

They just after membership in some silly fraternity named "the knights." Half already belong. Half will do anything to be initiated. Prerequisites for entry are: (a) a

big, shiny car and (b) a big, shiny ...

Now about the car. I've never driven one in my life, so this part of the picture left me soft. Granted, I have seen queens on Castro Street cream their pants at the sight of a BMW. But really. To create a whole flick around this fetish. It's a limited market. But I digress.

Scene One: Young stud David Hill driving around LA in his hot, red sports sedan. OK, a little "Production Value." Scene Two: The garage. Doughy Jason Ross gives doe-eyed David the inside poop, "It won't be long before you're a knight with a car like that. ... But (wink, wink) having a nice car isn't enough."

Cut to Jason groping his crotch.

After a minute of this, I'm hot for the fast-forward button.

Well, to be sure, Jason has a big one, with a juicy ball sack to match. But he seems to get off on looking at the camera more than looking at poor lonely David.

Jason finally cums, David sorta swallows it. Scary.

Fast forward. David's now solo, waxing his car uh-ah-oh so shiny. He quickly shifts gears, and before you can say "turtle wax," he's humping the auto full-throttle.

It doesn't get much better.

There's one scene in which a blond buck is getting fucked by a generic dude. It's OKish, but soon it becomes such an effort for me to get off, I give up.

I decide I'm one queen who won't be joining the "knights" anytime.

Eject. ▼

**Hot Summer Knights**  
Released by: Vivid Video  
Directed by: Patrick Dennis  
Cast: Jason Ross, David Hill, Jason Cruise, Andrew Michaels, Scott Hogan, Tony Young



David Hill checks into *Club Men*, a Vivid Video release.

## Deja Vu

I pop in the next tape.

The Vivid logo reappears. "Patrick Dennis Presents David Hill, Jason Ross ...

Oh no, not again!

This one's called *Club Men*, and it takes place on some tropical resort. It starts out badly.

Jason: "I think I'll go extend some of that hospitality this hotel is so well-known for."

Fast forward.

But wait! Cut to dark and handsome Chris Stone poolside with our friend Jason. Although Chris is a bona fide graduate of the Vivid school of acting, he's also endowed

with drop-dead pecks and a beautiful pecker to boot. Things quickly develop. One thing leads to another.

Maybe it's the hot sun, maybe it's the hot tub, but the scene definitely heats up. Chris is a great kisser, and turns into a real pleaser. Soon he's doing dick push-ups down Jason's throat. Such an athlete. Now, I, too, am hot and bothered.

Feeling satisfied, I leave our South-Sea epic for now, only to be beckoned by it's sweet musings the following day.

It's back to the pool, for a balmy moonlit evening. There's a soft ambrosial breeze, and more bad acting

in the air.

Superstud No. 1: "That dip really cooled me off." Superstud No. 2: "Really, it got me kinda hot." Well, the resulting sex is kinda hot, too. The guys are an eyeful, the chemistry's there, and there's some solid porn photography. Low-angle shots of golden bristles of leg hair, luscious tan lines and tight butts-a-squeezing.

Next, it's barbecue time with David Hill and friend. David: "How do you like your meat?" Well-done, no doubt. Too bad this scene isn't.

Now, it's love by a fountain with Bruno and Blondie. Blondie: "You got a coin? ... I want to make a wish." Bruno: "Why don't you wish on this?" (Grope, grope.)

Ah, romance. Hey, I'm not putting it down. These guys look like they really like each other. I really liked them, too. I also really liked the attention paid to feet, a dream come true for a true fetishist. And Blondie's beautifully hairless bootie high atop the cascading waters was absolutely mouth watering.

Highly energized, I was determined to bid adieu to this fruitful vacation on an up note. Too bad the last scene was a letdown. Another David Hill snooze.

All in all, I'm glad I visited *Club Men*. I'd recommend you check in, too — but not without reservations. ▼

**Club Men**  
Released by: Vivid Video  
Directed by: Patrick Dennis  
Cast: David Hill, Jason Ross, Steven Gibson, Scott Hogan, Danny Preston, Chris Stone, Richie Cummings, Mark Colton

## BOOKS

# A Must-Read

**A Home at the End of the World**  
by Michael Cunningham; Farrar, Straus and Giroux, \$18.95

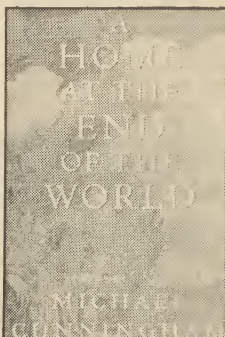
by Jeffery Kennedy

What is home? We are inundated with images of home from the day we are born. We are told home is marriage, children, a nice house, a good job, the comfort of objects, something stationary.

However, to many gay men and lesbian women, this mythical home is just that, a myth, and we have to create our own definition of home from scratch, make our own way. Getting there demands every ounce of perseverance we have and is painful as hell. And some of us, if we're lucky, will find it.

*A Home at the End of the World*, Michael Cunningham's debut novel, is about finding home.

Jonathan Glover and Bobby Morrow are two Cleveland teenagers who meet in a junior high school cafeteria line.



Jonathan is lonely and insecure. Bobby is a stoner, peaceful and quiet. They each come from twisted homes and find something they need in each other, quickly becoming friends and eventually lovers.

After high school Jonathan

(Continued on page 54)

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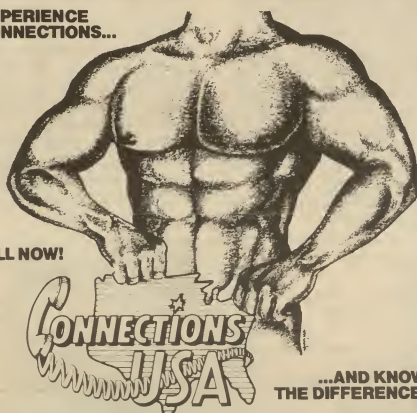


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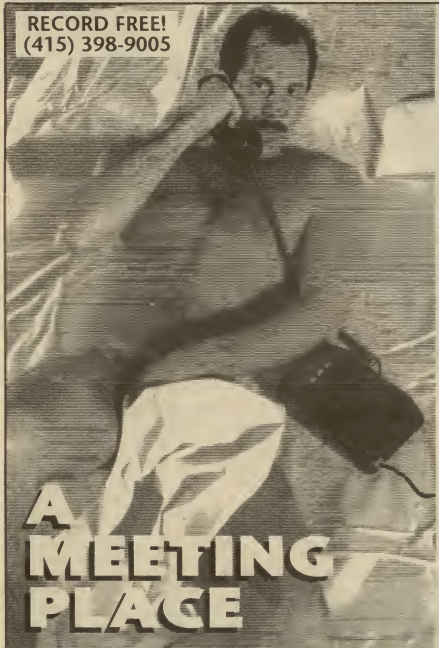
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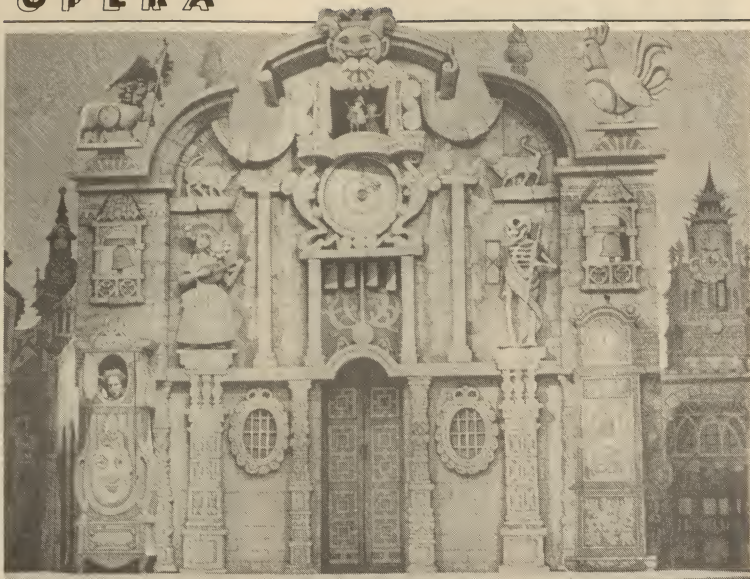


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## OPERA



Lots of cranking in the New York City Opera's production of *L'Heure Espagnole* this past fall.

(Photo: Carol Rosegg)

## Those Cheating Hearts

by George Heymont

**T**he AIDS crisis has forced many people to give monogamy serious consideration. In the best of all possible worlds, perhaps one person can provide everything his partner needs to achieve true happiness. But when temptation rears its head, so to speak, moral resolve tends to weaken, and the thought of an extracurricular romp in the hay becomes dangerously intoxicating.

While marital inconstancy may be a staple of the operatic literature, Johann Strauss' *Die Fledermaus* maintains a surprisingly constant presence in the repertoire. The reasons are quite simple. Not only is the Waltz King's score chock-full of hummable tunes, *Die Fledermaus* is the perfect show for the tired businessman. Although this operetta is performed so frequently that it has become a meal ticket for certain artists, very few productions ever seem to do the operetta justice. Some, like the Met's, are severely overproduced. Others range from ordinary to downright tacky.

Few, if any, ever hit the mark.

That situation changed for the better several months ago when the San Francisco Opera unveiled a sumptuous new production of *Die Fledermaus* designed by Wolfram Skalicki with lavish costumes by Thierry Bosquet. Directed by Lotfi Mansouri, the production's dramatic truths and theatrical integrity became most evident during Act II's ballet, which was handsomely choreographed by Helgi Tomasson and performed by members of the San Francisco Ballet.

It was Skalicki's Act II set—with its vast cyclorama anchoring Prince Orlofsky's ballroom—that finally did the trick for me. As a crucial dramatic ingredient missing from so many other productions came into focus, something finally clicked into place which told me why this *Fledermaus* was so extraordinary.

### The Real Thing

SFO's new production was the real thing. It was not being played as camp. Nor was it being planned as the pro-

duction that could salvage dwindling box office sales.

Not only did the San Francisco Opera's staging of *Die Fledermaus* have a genuine feeling for the period in which it was written, the production team successfully created the illusion that, instead of being presented for the benefit of the San Francisco Opera's audience, the operetta was really being performed for the people who lived in Vienna in the late 1800s. That's an extremely difficult trick to pull off, and I haven't seen it happen in years!

Some critics complained that Mansouri's stage direction was crass and cheap. Yet I found it perfectly appropriate to the dramatic action and the spirit in which the operetta's libretto was written. What one doesn't see in too many performances of *Die Fledermaus* is a cast that seems to be genuinely enjoying itself. The sheer delight of the artists appearing in this new production was most contagious.

The performance I attended benefitted immensely from Patrick Summers' lively work on the podium. Timothy Nolen's deliciously greasy Dr. Falke, Donald Adams' suave portrayal of Prison Warden Frank and Ildiko Komlosi's self-assured Prince Orlofsky provided strong dramatic foils for Theodore Baerg's wonderfully athletic and lecherous Eisenstein, tenor Jorge Lopez-Yanez's hilariously horny Alfred and Nancy Gustafson's solidly sung and physically charming Rosalinda.

Although Barbara Kilduff's spirited Adele did not impress me, I must confess that Arte Johnson's outrageous characterization of a drunken jailer was the funniest Frosch I'd encountered in years. Effete snobs who consider *Die Fledermaus* too far below their intellectual dignity to be worth serious attention should think twice about the San Francisco Opera's new production of Strauss' operetta.

Dramatically, it hits the mark more often than any *Fledermaus* currently on display in North America. Physically, it is one hell of a gorgeous production. And from a financial standpoint, it is eminently rentable (which just

goes to show that artistic integrity can go hand-in-hand with such a dirty word as amortization).

### Around the Clock

I wish I could be as enthusiastic about the New York City Opera's new production of *L'Heure Espagnole*.

Ravel's one-act opera describes the feverish period during which a Spanish clock-maker winds his city's clocks while his wife busily cranks the joysticks of several lovers. With numerous paramours banging down her door, Concepcion hides his city's clocks in her husband's finely-crafted chronometers while indulging herself in a lusty game of musical clocks. Or, shall we say, musical cocks.

This version of *L'Heure Espagnole* was part of a double bill designed by Maurice Sendak and directed by Frank Corsaro that was co-produced by the New York City Opera and England's Glyndebourne Festival. Although the famous illustrator's delightful unit set drips with a wry and whimsical charm, the production, as a whole, is stupefyingly cheerless. As the curtain-raiser to *L'Enfant et les Sortilèges*, Corsaro's staging of *L'Heure Espagnole* proved to be a major dud.

Conductor Guido Aymone-Marsan did his best to breathe life into a situation which was basically dead on arrival while Kathryn Gamberoni (Concepcion), Michael Rees Davis (Gonzalez), Jan Opalach (Don Inigo Gomez) and Jonathan Green (Torquemada) went through their paces with an admirable measure of professional resolve. I felt sorriest for baritone Robert Orth who, as the mulatte Ramiro, had to keep lifting and carrying grandfather clocks across the stage of the New York State Theatre.

The quality of Frank Corsaro's work has been steadily deteriorating over the past five years. The overwhelming feeling I got from watching City Opera's production of *L'Heure Espagnole* was that Corsaro has been burned out for so long that it's time for him to retire.

Harsh words, to be sure. But a problem which impresarios can no longer afford to ignore. ▼



Val Caniparoli's 'Pulcinella' and Paul Taylor's 'Blue Birds'

# Good Ideas, But Do They Dance?

by Eric Hellman

Bay Area dance lovers received a double dose of the new this week with the world premiere of Val Caniparoli's frothy *Pulcinella* at the San Francisco Ballet and the local unveiling of Paul Taylor's ambitious *Of Bright and Blue Birds* and the *Gala Sun* at Berkeley's Zellerbach Hall.

Both dances, although radically divergent in tone and aspiration, were full of challenging movement, skillful dancing and appealing decor. Both works left audiences cheering madly while this writer sat gloomily (and guiltily) in his chair. It isn't easy—or fun—being the only grump in the crowd.

Caniparoli, SFB's resident choreographer (and one of the company's most accomplished character dancers) has made an updated version of a classic, *commedia dell'arte* romance. *Pulcinella's* initial, 1920 incarnation featured Leonide Massine's choreography for Diaghilev's Ballets Russes. Numerous other versions have included Michael Smuin's for American Ballet Theatre (1968), Balanchine and Jerome Robbins' for New York City Ballet (1972) and a complete revision by Massine for Milan's LaScala Ballet (1971, and later revived for the Joffrey in 1974).

Caniparoli's *Pulcinella* (with the title role danced by Ashley Wheater on Tuesday night) contains a host of plot and character changes, most of which distort and enervate the ballet's tale of immortality, magic and romantic victory. Caniparoli's version transports the ballet from 16th-century Italy to (one guesses) a 19th-century London train station.

His narrative offers a radical reduction of the ballet's complicated plot, leaving us with a tepid tale of a boy (*Pulcinella*) who has a vision of his romantic ideal (*Pimpinella*, danced appealingly by Sabina Allemann) who later becomes the real thing. It's pretty slim pickings, despite all the artful visual distractions provided by costume and scenery designer Nadine Baylis.

## Lots of Choreography

Caniparoli's choreography (and there's a lot of it) was tiresomely repetitive, frenetically busy and often glib. The extended pas de deux for *Pulcinella* and *Pimpinella*

featured an excess of complicated partnering and several awkward, ugly lifts. Most of the dance's movement (except for several riotous mime sequences) seemed to exist more for its own sake than for the telling of a tale. One assumes this was Caniparoli's attempt to "modernize" the ballet.

Because of the choreographer's drastic simplification of the ballet's story, this version of *Pulcinella* suggests an especially superficial, inconsequential tale. Because the ballet's movement offers so little dramatic nuance, the viewer's attention wanders, making Stravinsky's score (based on songs by Pergolesi) seem unnecessarily long and in need of considerable editing.

But, in truth, it's not the composer who is at fault; instead this is a dance that needs more food for thought, from both choreographic and thematic points of view.

\*\*\*

Taylor's *Blue Birds*, unlike Caniparoli's ballet, is all about ideas and it's full of fast, furious, interesting movement for the marvelously skillful, sexy Paul Taylor Company dancers.

Unfortunately, the dance's choreography (fully pleasurable in itself) is never used to articulate any of the ideas that Taylor suggests in the work's oblique narrative. *Blue Birds* introduces an odd schizophrenia: a story that is implied but never told in terms of either character or movement phrasing.

What we do get is the suggestion of two worlds, both populated by the same dancer-citizens: the land of the happy, lyrical and psychically-whole and the opposing realm of the fragmented, violent and mentally deranged. It's a rather simple division, between heaven and hell, or how humans might be and how we often are.

## The Lyrical and Circular

*Blue Birds* lasts for nearly two hours (with a single, 20-minute intermission), and the dancing consists of interwoven visits to each of the two worlds and their corresponding movement vocabularies—lyrical and circular for the inhabitants of paradise, and dislocated and angular for the denizens of the underworld. It's not an especially difficult conceptual exercise, but one that places great emphasis on the dancemaker's abilities to sustain our interest in kinetic

terms.

Oddly, Taylor appears to be content to make movement that reveals a catalog of images from his own past—and from the history of modern dance. He moves dancers on and off the stage with skill, but rarely creates patterns or interactions among dancers that are emotionally compelling beyond a repetitive restatement of the two conditions of divergent being.

There are, however, many intriguing passages for individual dancers. A robot hop in the dance's second part, and a remarkably sensual variation for four boys with hunched shoulders (before an orgy-in-red scene) were especially memorable.

The score for *Blue Birds*, another contribution by the choreographer's long-time collaborator Donald York, is mostly an extended, symphonic realization of generic space-adventure music (or two hours of variations on the *Star Trek* theme). *Blue Birds* succeeds for many viewers, I suspect, because of the hypnotic trance its music invites.

*Blue Birds* takes its title from a poem by Wallace Stevens and includes a short poem by William Blake in the preface to the program's cast list. Neither title nor poem adds any clarity or depth to the work's performance. The dance's costumes, modified Grecian tunics in pastel col-



Ashley Wheater and Sabina Allemann danced the lead roles in the Feb. 12 world premiere of Val Caniparoli's *Pulcinella*.

ors, designed by Santo Loquasto, were attractive while also implying a pretentious sense of historical importance. Jennifer Tipton's lighting, dim and atmospheric, often made it difficult to see dancers' movements on the stage.

In *Blue Birds*, Taylor seems to be fishing for something big, for a work whose content justifiably sustains its length. For this viewer, such happiness remained an inviting yet elusive goal. ▼

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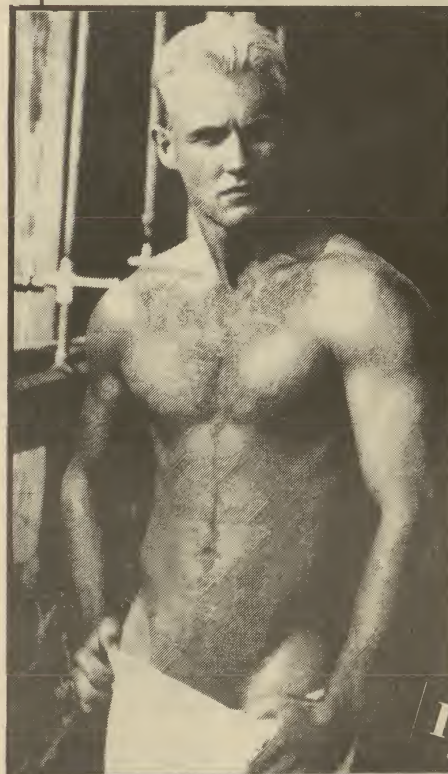
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Paul Taylor's *Of Bright and Blue Birds* and the *Gala Sun* visits paradise and the underworld. (Photo: Johan Elbers)



# AIDS, Art And Politics

New York Artists Break Down Barriers Aesthetic and Otherwise

by David Hirsh

Gregg Bordowitz and Tom Kalin, AIDS activists and artists, are two of the best known video practitioners who have centered themselves in the politics of AIDS. Feb. 24 at the San Francisco Cinematheque, they will present a selection of AIDS videos and talk about their experiences.

Among the videos the two are likely to show is *Diva TV's* revealing and effective intertwining of footage from the 1989 gay pride demonstrations and Judy Garland clips. Another is Ellen Spiro's humorous and effective *DiAna's Hair Ego*, about a beautician in a black neighborhood in South Carolina who went about informing her customers and community about AIDS, later going on to found a state-wide education network. Other videos include Tom Kalin's personal investigation into representations of identity, *They are lost to vision altogether*, and the well-known collective efforts, *Testing the Limits* and *Target City Hall*.

Bordowitz and Kalin recently met at Kalin's home in New York's Lower East Side for a conversation. They began by talking about their development as artists and then about more current concerns.

★ ★ ★

GB: Both Tom and I used to make gallery artwork. I've always been most interested in making work which created opportunities for action against the status quo. Around 1985 I made a tape about coming out in the time of AIDS and decided that video was a viable means of making work for me.

This coincided with my getting involved politically in the gay and lesbian community. I started documenting the first AIDS activist protests. I've gone on to be a member of a number of video collectives that took on the job of documenting the AIDS activist movement. For the past two and a half years I've worked at Gay Men's Health Crisis and, along with Jean Carlomusto, produces the *Living With AIDS* cable TV show.

TK: I came out fairly young in my large family in



*DiAna's Hair Ego*, about a beautician who went into the AIDS education biz, is one of the tapes/films Gregg Bordowitz and Tom Kalin will present at Cinematheque.

Chicago. My practice came from ideas I had early on about wanting to make interventionist work. I'm more comfortable with the notion of "critical practice" as opposed to the ghettoized territory defined as "political art." I made a tape in 1985 about AIDS and about myself. In 1987 I moved to New York, in large part out of personal anxiety about AIDS and wanting to put myself into the middle of the epidemic.

I quickly became active in ACT UP and got involved with a window installation at the New Museum of Contemporary Art. Some of the people involved in that went on to form Gran Fury (a collec-

tive which makes public art about the AIDS crisis).

GB: I'm drawn to making

**"The model of identity based solely on sexuality is, in my eyes, pretty bankrupt."**

— Tom Kalin

work that is developed in the community's interest. This work should create the opportunity for alternative renderings of identity and the possibilities for new options.

TK: The model of identity based solely on sexuality is, in my eyes, pretty bankrupt. Identities are formed in between and across all kinds of factors, like race, class, gender.

GB: No one talks about the straight community. We talk about the gay community because we're talking about people who are excluded as an audience by the dominant culture. A community is formed through a complex interplay of repression and response.

TK: I've worked for three years at AIDS Films. One of the main reasons I left the company was because, in 1991, I'm troubled by the notion of continuing to make prevention education. I think it's as problematic as making a film that presumes a heterosexual audience, insofar as prevention education presumes the audience to be HIV negative. Since there are quite a few people who are HIV positive, I personally would rather see video materials at this point that starts with that possibility.

Gran Fury, right now, is involved in a project, with a group called Prostitutes of New York (PONY), a sex workers' collective. It will appear, again, in the windows of the New Museum. One point to the installation is that, in the times of AIDS, sex is not necessarily penetration. Pornography, massage, verbal exchange — all manner of sexual expressions have become importantly eroticized now.

During the AIDS crisis it's been important to fight for the pleasure of getting

fucked, and to fight for safer sexuality. It's also been important to open the possibilities for other behaviors that aren't recognized as legitimate sexuality. Jean Carlomusto and I caused some controversy by producing a safer fist fucking tape.

TK: Still circulating is the idea that if, somehow, we could have gotten it together, as it were, and not have engaged in promiscuity, we wouldn't have the AIDS crisis. I think that's a complete falsehood. I think that promiscuity can be a healthy expression of sexuality if it's done safely, as opposed to it being seen as the vector of disease.

GB: Safe sex educators have been forced into a position of lying. Lacking adequate resources, we've had to put out impoverished messages about very complex understandings of sexuality. Safer sex is a complex and personal process of risk assessment.

TK: Very few agencies have acknowledged the possibility of safer sexuality. I think of a series of posters done by the San Francisco AIDS Foundation which were excellent. But it's only a drop in the bucket.

GB: Much of the work I've been involved with represents the positions of specific disenfranchised communities. In *Testing the Limits*, for example, we tried to get various members of different communities hard hit by AIDS to talk within the situations of their communities, talking to their communities. This was edited to juxtapose these speakers so that the audience could conceive of a growing coalition of people working toward the same direction, fighting against government inaction on AIDS.

TK: The work I've been involved with shares the concern of picturing that possibility. Also, in terms of my individual work around AIDS, it was important to me, in my last tape, to create a space that named highly subjective relationships to the representations that constituted AIDS, from the broadcast medium to pornography to street protests. There's a politic in the most minute social exchange. The politics of the AIDS crisis are not only being fought in protests, but, in fact, are intertwined in day to day living, in all sorts of small negotiations. I want to erode this tiny category that is usually figured as "the political."

▼

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# The Motown Revue

by David Taylor-Wilson

Like a powerful earthquake, Motown Records emerged as an undeniable force on the music scene back in 1960. It shook the music world's very foundation, causing a music revolution, the aftershocks of which are still being felt today.

Detroit became world-famous as the launching point for the careers of some of the greatest singers and singing groups of all time.

Thirty-one years later, and now based in Los Angeles, Motown Records is still a music megaforce that possesses the knack for turning out some of today's most talented artists.

This upcoming Wednesday, Feb. 27, The Beat will be presenting, in a guest performance, the classic Motown Sound of yesterday, along with a fresh mix of the Motown Sound of today and a preview of the artists whose talents promise to take Motown well into the next century. Join us at Club Twelve-20 in Walnut Creek at 1220 Pine Street for the celebration. The party begins at 9 p.m. For more information or directions, call Club Twelve-20 at 938-4550.

The event is being sponsored by Motown Records, which has provided hundreds of prizes for the night: compact discs, music cassettes, music videos and 12" dance singles.

Prizes include music from Stevie Wonder, Martha Reeves and the Vandellas, Mary Wells, Smokey Robinson, Four Tops, Jackson Five, and Jr. Walker and the All-Stars.

There are exciting grand prizes: a special collector's edition double-CD anthology of Diana Ross and the Supremes' greatest hits and a special collector's edition double-CD anthology of Marvin Gaye's greatest hits. These superb packages showcase the careers of these music greats with detailed discography, liner notes and many never-before-released photos. We will be awarding two of each of these anthologies during the evening.

As we mentioned above, the Motown Sound of today is an exciting sound. It serves as proof that Motown still has its finger firmly on the pulse of the music scene.

Prizes representing the contemporary Motown include music from Johnny Gill, Gerald Alston, Today, The Boys and Ada Dyer.

Gill, a former New Edition member, has experienced unprecedented success since embarking on a solo career. Last year he scored major hits and took command of dance floors everywhere with "Rub You the Right Way" and "Fairweather Friend."

His seductively enticing ballad, "My, My, My," became the year's love anthem and struck passion in the hearts of lovers. His new single, "Wrap My Body Tight," with the magic touch of the Jimmy Jam/Terry Lewis production team, seems destined to propel this already platinum-certified album to even loftier

heights.

Gerald Alston and his silky smooth vocals hark back to a time of gentlemen crooners who possessed a deep love and passion that had to be released in song. Alston's album, *Open Invitation*, is the essence of Teddy Pendergrass, Barry White and Marvin Gaye. His recently released single, "Slow Motion," was the epitome of romance ballads; his new single, "Getting Back Into Love," is a bonus climax.

The group Today and its album, *The New Formula*, provide the recipe for smokin' dance rhythms and beautiful, smooth harmonies. Featured in the movie *House Party* with their hit single, "Why You Get Funky on Me," they've proven to be unstoppable ever since.

Their follow-up single, "I Got the Feeling," remained on the R&B charts for an unbelievable four months. Their new single, "I Wanna Come Back Home," shows their softer side and showcases their sweet harmonies.

First there was the Jackson Five, and now the torch has been passed to The Boys, a quartet of young brothers who embrace all the fire, exuberance and talent that made the Jackson Five music history. Their album produced one of last year's biggest R&B hits, "Crazy." Their current single, "Thing Called Love," is quickly following the same path.

Ada Dyer is, in our opinion, the new Motown Hostess-With-the-Mostest. Her fiery vocals on her debut single, "That's What I Look for in a Lover," had us down for the count from the very start. That's saying a lot considering we have yet to hear her album.

Other new Motown acts that we recommend keeping an eye on and who we expect will be garnering lots of attention in the near future as they begin to flex their music muscles include new jack-swingers Basic Black, female rapper M.C. Trouble, Blaze, Jesse West, Another Bad Creation and Doc Box & B. Fresh.

Remember, that's this upcoming Wednesday at Club Twelve-20 in Walnut Creek for the Motown dance party, with the music that is old, new, never borrowed, sometimes blue, but always hot. See you there.

## Beats About the Bay

Big Heart City Productions and GUS Presents have just combined to present San Francisco's first 100 percent rock 'n' roll dance club, Rockateria. Located at 836 Mission (near 4th Street), Rockateria was slated to kickoff Feb. 15. A Friday-night-only club, it will feature three floors of diversion, videos, pool tables and a 2,000 square-foot dance floor.

With a music format rooted deeply in the traditions of basic rock and roll, Rockateria will present such groundbreaking groups as Led Zepplin, The Who, AC/DC, David Bowie, Faith No More, Jane's Addiction and Living Color.

This music gap has existed



Motown past and present gets celebrated in Walnut Creek Feb. 27.

within our city for far too long. We consider this endeavor welcome news and send along sincerest wishes for great success to Rockateria. We'll be paying you a

visit real soon.

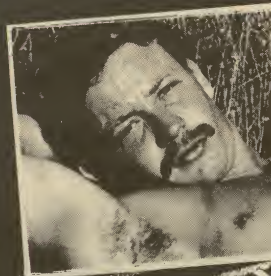
Also new on the club scene is Under World. Another GUS Presents creation, it makes its debut Feb. 22. It too is a first: the city's first

Underground Underwear House Party. The location of the party is secret, and admittance is by limited invitation only. For more information call 978-9448. ▼

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# Getting Sex Out of The Back of My Head

(Continued from page 33)

smooth he was.

When I was 12 and 13, my friends Mike D. and Mike F. and I would have sleepovers, and I would convince them to take off all their clothes, daring them by saying that we had to measure the size of our erections. We'd read these magazines that Mike D. had with stories about bisexual love and other weird things like that that no one ever talked about.



Adam

I remember I ended up touching them a couple of times, (when all three of us were sitting around without any clothes on, reading these stories about guys sucking each other off in the woods), not even thinking about it. But one time, Mike F. stopped me and said he didn't want me to do that, and we didn't have any more sleepovers after that.

At camp the summer I was 14 I shared this really small tent with this kid Reese. I remember I used to strip, real-

ly slowly and quietly so he wouldn't know what I was doing, slowly unzipping my sleeping bag from head to foot and letting my boner feel the cold air and feeling completely naked and knowing that he was right next to me, close enough to touch me. He and I and some other kids would go down to this stream where the water rushed along really fast, and we'd take off our clothes and jump in and we'd have to grab on to the rocks so we wouldn't get pulled away by the current. It was the best feeling, to be naked in there with the water rushing around you so you got lifted up like a leaf, with other naked boys around you.

## Ready — But Stopped

Something happened that affected me a lot that summer when I was 14, because I think I was ready to come out at least to myself, and then I was suddenly stopped. There was this counselor who was 26. I really looked up to and got along with him very well. We would stay up late talking, and he would tell stories about stuff that happened to him in college — all the different drugs he'd done and all the different places he'd jerked off.

One night we were all sitting around in my bunk, right above his, talking. And I remember feeling his hands massage me and rub me there in the dark on the corner of my bed in this big, pitch black

cabin. After a couple of hours everybody else started leaving or falling asleep, and I remember I was really hard, and it started getting pretty sexual.

When he finally grabbed my erection, I remember him saying, "We don't have to go any further if you don't want to," and not knowing what to say because it was kind of a shock that this was happening. But then he jumped off the bed and

**I have really strong memories about having sex with this one guy I saw last summer, because while it was happening I felt good about myself in a way I never had before.**

went to brush his teeth, and went to sleep.

I was pretty angry at him the next day for abandoning me there when I knew somewhere in my head I was ready to deal with it, if only he'd explained it was OK, and it wasn't evil or anything. But I was more angry during the next year, be-

cause no one from camp talked to me after that, because someone whom I had told what happened told the whole camp. So I had this big secret and no one talked to me about it and I didn't talk to anyone about it, not even myself.

## First Real Date

A couple years after that I went away to school, and I gradually started to deal with my sexuality. A bunch of us rented a house in Provincetown, Mass., the summer after my first year at school, and I remember the first real date I had with another guy. He took me to dinner and to the A-House, this club there, and I got really drunk. At home I told him I wanted to try getting fucked, but it kind of hurt, and then it really hurt, and I told him to stop but he wouldn't.

We didn't use a condom for most of it, and I swallowed his sperm when he came in my mouth because I didn't know what else to do with it. I was really sore the next day, and I avoided him for the rest of the summer. That fall back at school, we got a call from our friend who had gone to San Francisco to deal coke with him, telling us that he was out here and he was really sick with AIDS. I really thought I would have it then, but I got lucky and my tests say I don't. But it made me think about things a little differently.

After that I kept on having sex with guys but there were a lot of problems, because I felt really guilty about my sexuality, and that would come up and get in the way when things were going along pretty well. The first time I really accepted my sexuality was a few months ago. And I have really strong memories about having sex with this one guy I saw last summer, because while it was happening I felt good about myself in a way I never had before and it kind of freaked me out.

I remember being on all fours, my butt rubbing up against his erection really fast and squirming it around to hit just the right spot and how good it felt, and feeling completely swallowed up by it and the feeling filling my whole head so I wasn't thinking about anything else. Another time, I remember lying with my legs spread wide apart and my eyes closed feeling his tongue gently glide around the rim of my butt, and just wanting to lie there forever. And I remember letting him take me and kiss me and I felt like it was really a *man* kissing me and that nothing else could give me that feeling.

## Making It Work

But it seems like there are a

lot of problems that come up for fags trying to make relationships work, when they don't have any picture to make it fit into and they're doing it from scratch. And when it's this big secret you have to keep from most of the rest of the world.

One night the guy I was seeing this summer and I were really drunk and were telling each other how much we loved each other, and we agreed that it would be a really bad feeling to squeeze someone to let them know you loved them and have them not squeeze back. He says he doesn't remember us saying any of that. But to me it's important because it has to do with trying to love other guys for me, and because of how guilty you feel and how gross you feel about yourself not being able to make it work.

He and I got into a few big fights between last summer and last month, because we moved out here together and had a really hard time living with each other. And since all that I've been staying away from sex, trying to figure out what I really think about it and whether it's important to love someone or not.

This is a poem I wrote to him last spring. I put it in because it seems like he could be anybody's "him," and it's kind of about not being able to make things work — like it seems straight people can so easily (because they've got all these models of how to do it and everybody supports them being in love). The Krahlings were these teachers at our school, and the people we saw when we were picking out condoms were "fake" because they weren't really them, they just scared us.

But that doesn't matter. What matters is that we had a joke that my "motto" was "You take what you can get..." And I thought that love was this big joke, I guess, because it never seemed to work out, but I think of it differently now.

★ ★ ★

Thick massage un-coiled wrinkles pressed out waves in ears boy to boy. Drunk flavor, harder than ever, Never forget your jism floating in my mouth in the darkroom, and pretending I was Betty Blue, or being found out when they walked in and turned on the lights. Buying condoms and looking over and seeing the fake Krahlings right there, I wanted to be in love — I'm sorry about my motto.



# Quest for Sisterhood

then that I began to love the openness and sincerity of women. The sisterhood that I discovered while marching in my first Take Back The Night March was exhilarating! I was only nine at the time but I felt the pride and power of women united even then.

Adolescence began with a move east and the farewell to that community of women. Junior high and high school were filled with the usual rebellion and self-doubt. I first came out when I was 16. It was pretty lonely. There wasn't that great community



Beth

of women that existed for me in my youth. In fact, sisterhood seemed to be altogether

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# The Secret's Out

(Continued from page 33)

personally I couldn't find anything wrong with it. Women were beautiful. However, I did feel that it was unacceptable to like female: in that way, so I tried to hide how I felt. I found myself calling others faggots at school. At home, every chance I got I would stress how disgusting homosexuals were. I'd make sure my mom heard me do this often.

Strangely enough, my mom almost always reprimanded me about my negative attitude toward gays. Still, I continued in order to assure everyone



Olga

that I wasn't "like that."

In seventh grade, I had quite a few crushes. I would actually look forward to going to school just to see April and Barbara at lunch, Nancy in band class and Clara at basketball practice. I dreaded Christmas vacation because it would be two weeks before I saw these gorgeous girls again.

In eighth grade the same thing happened. However, it was starting to really bother me that I always had to keep all of these feelings a secret. A lot of my friends started getting girlfriends (at the time all of my friends were boys) and it started pissing me off that I couldn't tell April how I felt about her, or that Barbara was going with Robert instead of me. I started feeling very left out.

Entering high school was a very scary thing in itself. Only eight people from my middle school made it to Lowell High and none of us were particularly great friends. So from the start, I felt very alone. The school placed a great demand on academic success. Everyone was extremely competitive, which led to more isolation.

## Hormones Kick In

To top things off, my hormones were starting to kick in and I found myself looking at every other girl that walked by.

## Quest

(Continued from previous page)

invisible.

There were lesbians that I knew of, but they were so private and suspicious of a young'un. Jobs, families and reputations were (and unfortunately are) still at stake.

I was fortunate to have an extremely supportive mom who hooked me up with other lesbians in New York City. This got me through high school, but I wonder how other gay/lesbian youth, the ones who are ignored and shunned by their families, manage without that support.

I graduated from high

I tried to concentrate on my school work, but my feelings about women wouldn't go away.

I found myself daydreaming about different people all the time. At this point I was finally able to say, "Olga, you're a lesbian." There was no denying it anymore. I just knew it was the truth.

I remember crying when I said that to myself. It terrified me, not because I thought it was bad to be a lesbian, but because I knew that for the rest of my life I was going to be prejudged and even hated just because I was gay. I felt that in order to survive, I'd have to hide my identity from everyone — my friends, my family and even my mom, to whom I was very close.

## Doing Research

I spent almost all of my time in the library. I began searching for any books that had anything to do with homosexuality. I found a few health books and even fewer lesbian novels. There were only two lesbian fiction books in the entire school library and one was stolen. The one left was called *Annie on My Mind*. I was too scared to go check out the book, so I would sit in the library and read as much as I could every day, making sure that no one saw me take that specific book off the shelf, and put it back on the shelf backwards.

Reading that book gave me new hope. The story was about two teenage girls, about 17, who were both coming out to themselves, and how they happened to find each other and become girlfriends. They were going through and feeling the same things I was. It was incredible — there actually might be other gay teenagers!

After that book I went to the public library to see what else I could find on any gay teens. I found *Confessions of a Rock Lobster*. This was the story of a guy who came out in high school and brought his boyfriend to his prom. I ended up spending practically the whole spring semester of ninth grade in the library, reading and learning. I managed to get a 0.00 grade point average, but now that I look back, it was worth it.

I discovered the truth about myself by reading all the literature that was available on homosexuality. I found that I wasn't the one with the problem — everyone else was (wrong). This realization —

along with being fed up with being depressed all the time about having to hide myself — gave me the strength to start coming out.

It was a long, slow and scary process, but between 10th and 12th grades, I came out to the entire school as well as to countless other people.

I started out by telling my best friend at school. She was very supportive and that gave me the courage to tell my other best friend. Then I told my mother. She wasn't thrilled, but said that she'd always suspected it and that she still loved me. Her only regret was that she was scared for me because of how society treats gays and lesbians. Having mom's support was such a relief.

After that, there was no stopping me. When people at school would ask me if I liked Joe, I would say, "No, but Jenny's pretty cute." I told friends, one after the other. Just about all of them were supportive, too. And the ones that weren't, I felt that it was their problem — not mine.

## A Girlfriend at Last

In the summer of 1988 I met my first girlfriend. I was at the Jackson Street Rap Group for Young Lesbians and Gays. She walked in late and it was love at first sight. After the meeting, everyone exchanged phone numbers and one of her friends invited me to a slumber party at her house. I said I might go.

I didn't know if she had invited me or if this other friend of hers just took it upon herself to invite me. However, that week I got a phone call from her. Her name was Elizabeth. She called to find out if I was coming or not. Of course, I ac-

cepted. That night was lots of fun. I had never been to a slumber party in my life, let alone a lesbian slumber party. Liz and I flirted all night. After the party, we called each other every night and talked for hours. About two weeks later, she finally told me she had a crush on me. I couldn't believe it! A girlfriend at last!

Liz and I were very open about our lesbian identities when we went out. We held hands on the street, kissed on crowded buses and generally let ourselves do what any straight couple would do. Unfortunately, the fun only lasted about two months. She was not out to her parents and this

me feel good about myself as a person. I've met all my lovers through LYRIC. I made countless new friends, young and old. I've been able to help other teenagers deal with their gay identities.

I've gotten very involved with the gay community in politics as well as in leisure. From participating in the Gay Pride Parade and rallying and speaking to support Project 10 to playing in the Gay Softball League and organizing dances for lesbian and gay youth.

With the love and support of my mom, my friends and everyone in LYRIC, I finally graduated from Lowell in January of 1990. I was lucky enough to get a job straight out of high school at a law firm called Hitchens & Brenner. I never imagined that I'd be so lucky as to work in an office full of beautiful lesbians and that one of my bosses would end up being elected a Superior Court Judge!

I started my first semester at City College in August 1990. The past few months have been difficult, not only because of school but because my mother was fighting cancer. I had to move out of my home because I knew she would be dying soon and I would be homeless. I was able to get into a Transitional Housing Program for Young Adults called Guerrero House. I have been living there since September.

My mom passed away Jan. 21. I miss her dearly. Without her love and support, I never could have done all the things I've just written about. My life would have been a lot different. If there were more parents like her around, there might be a lot fewer unhappy gay teenagers. ▼

## I've gotten very involved with the gay community in politics as well as in leisure.

caused a lot of tension in our relationship. Her mother was starting to get suspicious about our relationship and that, among other things, finally led to us breaking up.

In January 1989, I joined a newly formed gay youth group that has come to be known as the Lavender Youth Recreation and Information Center (LYRIC). Through LYRIC, I found an incredible network of support which helped me not only "come out," but helped

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# In and Out of the Mainstream

(Continued from page 33)

diately immersed myself in San Francisco's gay world. I did my best to familiarize myself with the culture, to learn my erased history, to read books by gay writers and to really get a grip on things from a socio-political perspective. It has been an absolute priority for me to try to understand everything about the present gay world, our relationships with the straight world, conditioning and oppression.

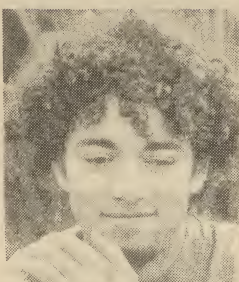
One big thing I have been dealing with is the difference between being white and gay and being black and gay. Here in San Francisco we have the most extensive gay community in the country — probably on the planet — and it is very diverse, yet I am still reluctant to say what we have here is gay culture.

## Separate Communities

If you cross the bridge and attempt to familiarize yourself with Oakland's black gay community, you will notice that it is completely and totally separate and distinct from San Francisco's community. I wonder if they are related at all. There is a black gay culture that is alive and well all over the country, and it is something that many gays are unaware of.

It frustrates me that we are so insulated from each other, but it also makes me happy to know that there is an alternative. It's nice to know that there is no one community, that I have a choice. I can mix aspects from both communities or can reject them both altogether.

I myself am half-black, and I am curious how my ethnicity



Steven

**One big thing I have been dealing with is the difference between being white and gay and being black and gay.**

ty and sexuality mix to form my identity. I have seen three films that deal with being black and gay: *Paris Is Burning*, *Affirmations* and *Tongues Untied*. They were all fascinating and made me see something to which I have been completely blind my whole life.

In *Tongues Untied*, Essex Hemphill brings up the question of which contributes more to the formation of one's identity: being black or

being gay? For most black people the question is ludicrous. You cannot separate one from the other.

One of my closest friends in life, Kay, who is also half-black and has an uncannily similar background, does not like this question at all. Because we mirror each other to an extent, and disagree, it is a particularly volatile subject over which we will surely argue until one of us dies.

For her, "black," "gay" and "woman" are incorporated into one big ball. She cannot isolate one part without including the others. For myself, the answer is easy and obvious, but I have learned not to apply what I think to others who are black and gay.

## Coming Out, Being Black

For me, being gay has been a huge issue, and in comparison, being black has not been an issue at all. Like many others, coming out was the single most difficult thing I have ever done and will probably ever do.

I feel as if I can do anything now and that life is basically downhill from here! The personal transformations, growth and learning experiences that I have gone through in the past ten months are amazing, and I am happier than I have ever been.

I don't understand, however, why being black is not an issue for me. I sometimes wonder if I am in deep, deep denial, if I've somehow dealt with it unconsciously — or at an early age — or because I am light-skinned enough to pass as Mediterranean or Latino; I have somehow not

been affected by racism. But then, if I want to, I can also pass as straight.

Though I am half-black, I have grown up in white, affluent areas. My father is black, and the more progress I make in coming out in today's world, the more I wonder how my father deals with being a heavily stigmatized minority in a predominantly white culture. Obviously, he subscribes to white affluent culture because it is comfortable, and, to him, it means power and choice.

But I have always felt that he is trying to ignore or forget something. He is very good at detaching. Sometimes I think he has never really "come out" with his ethnicity.

## Mainstream Gay Culture

Though I didn't feel any sort of inherent bond with the people in those films I saw at the festival, the simple fact that black gay culture came across as so separate and different from mainstream culture made several things very clear to me.

First, it points out that mainstream culture is not quite as integrating and broad as we sometimes think; we are still heavily Eurocentric in our orientation. With all of the conscious reconstruction and barrier-breaking that gays and lesbians do in this community, we could still be more encompassing.

Secondly, it shows us how narrow a band of experience we limit ourselves to if we live within a single community (black, white, gay, Chinese, etc.). I am not at all saying that gays and lesbians only lead certain kinds of lifestyles or only have certain interests. We are as diverse a group as the world gets.

However, many black gay people feel that the mainstream gay community has no relevance to their lives. I really wish the San Francisco gay community were as huge, incorporating and multi-everything as the gay day parade — every day.

Before I came out, I was furious at the SF gay community for the images it produced. I felt cheated and thought the community was self-destructive and blind to younger gays and people who chose not to live in the mainstream.

Today, I understand the strategies and mechanisms behind the mainstream gay movement, agree with most of them, and am proud of them. I think they are probably some of the most brilliant and dynamic strategies ever produced by an oppressed group of people, and I am simultaneously and contradictorily distressed and encouraged by the huge gap between the mainstream gay community and the black community. ▼

## Gay/Lesbian Programs



Todd Fraser, left, and Nicholas Rempel, in *Clay Farmers*.

(Photo: Janet Silva)

### 'Clay Farmers'

**Thursday, Feb. 28, 11 p.m., KQED Ch. 9:** An independently produced film about child abuse, loyalty and homophobia. *Clay Farmers* is a dramatic feature film about two young men, working on a small farm, who befriend a local boy starved for friendship and routinely beaten by his alcoholic father. The father finds out about the alliance between his son and the farmhands and unjustly charges the pair with sexually abusing the boy.

### Straight Talk

**Monday, Feb. 25, 10 p.m., SF Viacom 25:** Featuring *Men On Film*, — not from *In Living Color* — the authentic Manhattan porno review cable show which *In Living Color* spoofs; Don Baird's "Club Update"; and much more.

### Helping Hands

**Thursday, Feb. 28, 10 p.m., SF Viacom 25**

### Messiah Theatre Presents

**Friday, 10:30 p.m., SF Viacom 25:** Dejohn Messiah and entourage create a whirlwind video montage on the cutting-edge of gay artistic expression.

### Outlook

**Monday, Viacom Cable 25**  
**Monday, 10 a.m., Newark Cable 6**  
**Tuesday, (every other week) 10:30 p.m., San Jose Cable 28**  
**Wednesday, (1st, 3rd) 9 p.m., PCTV (Oakland, East Bay)**  
**Thursday, 8:30 p.m., Mountain View Cable 30**  
**Friday, (2nd, 4th) 7:30 p.m., Los Altos, Cupertino Cable 30**

### Electric City

**Sunday, Feb. 24, 10 p.m., SF Viacom 35**  
**Tuesday, Feb. 26, 10 p.m., Mountain View Cable 30**  
**Wednesday, Feb. 27, 8 p.m., SF Viacom 35:** Our unique conclusion to *Carrie*, also Judy Greenspan talks about prisons & AIDS issues.

### Hibernia Beach/Rubyfruit Terrace

**Sunday, 7 a.m., KITS 105.3 FM:** Issues of concern to gay men and lesbians alternates every week.

### Fruit Punch

**Wednesday, 10 p.m., KPFA 94.1 FM:** News, interviews, reviews.

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# Bay Area Reporter Sports & Fitness

## POOL

### MVP's Passing Shocks Team

The Park Bowl Weevils were still glowing from their recent undefeated romp at West Coast Challenge XXII when word of the tragic sudden death of their MVP, Jim Russo, left them stunned. Jim apparently suffered a massive heart attack at home, and the immediate attempts at CPR and fast arrival of paramedics couldn't save him.

It's very likely that Jim played more 17th-game tie-breakers than anyone else in league history. At least two City Championships were claimed on the strength of his incredible proficiency and strength of will in those crucial, must-win situations. Also gone with him is one of the best three cushion billiard players in the region.

In his brief association with the league he played on four City Champion teams and had claimed numerous individual titles. He was one of those rare players who seem to inspire both opponents and teammates to take their games to that elusive



Jim Russo inspired both opponents and teammates to higher levels. (Photo: Rick Gerharter)

higher level and will continue for many long into the future. to be a source of inspiration (Continued on next page)

## BASKETBALL

### Hotshots Wear Pacers Out

by Joe Nelson

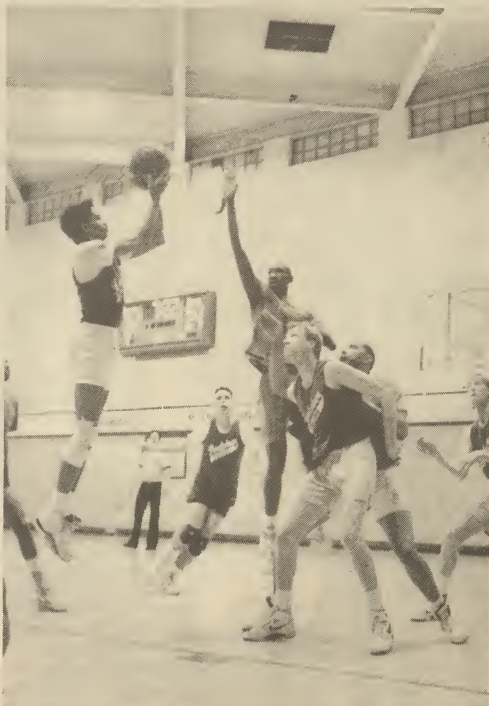
"They just wore us out of the game," Pacers coach John Mitchell said after the team's contest with the Hotshots, and that was exactly what happened last weekend at the Collingwood gym. With only three of the regular Pacers starters present and a total of seven players, two of whom had ankle injuries, the Hotshots took advantage of the situation to post a 76-62 victory.

Despite the loss, the strong-hearted Pacers felt good about their effort. Mike Ambrosano, who was matched against another physical center, said, "I enjoyed the game. He kept shoving me around and I did the same right back. It was a great challenge and all of us played pretty well!"

Daryle Morgan led the luckless Pacers with 16 points and three assists. Mark Johnson totaled 15 and ripped eight boards. John Wood, who had missed the Pacers' last game, returned to score 12 points. Mike Ambrosano had nine points and five rebounds.

The Pacers took an early lead of nine points after five minutes of play. In the second half, it appeared that they would break away to an easy victory as they were ahead 43-38 with 15 minutes remaining. But without any rest, these horses just didn't have the endurance.

The 2-4 Pacers are halfway through their season, and can only afford one or two more losses and still make the playoffs. Tonight's opponents are



Pacers put up a good fight, but were overpowered down the stretch by Hotshots in Eureka Valley Adult League game Feb. 15. (Photo: Rick Gerharter)

last year's champions, the Ireland's 32 bar.

The refereeing will be scrutinized, because the Ireland's bar has been given free practice time on Sunday afternoons when Collingwood gym is normally closed. The Pacers have been forced to

pay for their practice sessions. The gym director doing Ireland's a favor is one of the league's refs.

Tonight's tipoff will be at 8:50 p.m. at the Collingwood gym. On March 1, the Pacers match up against Ground and Air Attack at 6:30 p.m. ▼

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# SF Bowlers Meet Fresno Challenge

by Jerry R. De Young

Forty-one bowling teams from Campbell, Fresno, Hayward, Salinas, San Jose and San Francisco participated in The Fresno Challenge, held at Park Bowl on Feb. 3. The tournament was as much a social as it was a competitive event, and it was obvious that everyone was having a blast. The final team standings demonstrated an almost uncanny placement pattern with an out-of-town team claiming every sixth spot through the first 37 positions.

The seven teams that placed in the money, the first five of which were from San Francisco, were as follows: Mother's Helpers (2644/\$245); Dust Busters (2454/\$195); Easy Entries (2452/\$155); Dust Bowlers (2412/\$125); All American (2409/\$95); Miracle Girls, San Jose (2399/\$85); and Arms Akimbo, San Francisco (2393/\$65). The lowest team score was 1928.

Yes, my sweeties, the SF teams definitely dominated, but the Miracle Girls of San Jose (an all-female team) certainly made more than a re-

spectable showing.

Speaking of respectable showings, Thomas A. Neidert (158) of the TGWednesdayBL Pin Heads team recently realized a gorgeous game of 234, the highest of his entire bowling career (and many other bowling careers, too, no doubt).

With several of the Tavern Guild Bowling Leagues nearing the ends of their seasons, publication of beginning dates and pertinent particulars for the upcoming Tavern Guild Bowling Leagues 1991 Summer Season Schedule seem to be specially suitable, so here they are:

**Tavern Guild Monday Trios Bowling League:** Season starts Apr. 1, (no pre-season meeting) three-person teams (fourth and fifth sub bowlers optional); shadow bowling at 6:15 p.m., commence bowling 6:30 p.m.; \$9.50 per bowler (three-bowler minimum).

**Tavern Guild Monday Bowling League:** Season starts Apr. 1; pre-season meeting, second floor, Park Bowl, 7:30 p.m.; five-person teams (sixth sub bowler optional);

shadow bowling at 8:15 p.m., commence bowling 8:30 p.m.; \$9.50 per bowler (five-bowler minimum).

**Tavern Guild Wednesday Bowling League:** Season starts Mar. 27; pre-season meeting, second floor, Park Bowl, 7:30 p.m.; five-person teams (sixth sub bowler optional); shadow bowling at 8:15 p.m., commence bowling 8:30 p.m.; \$9.50 per bowler (five-bowler minimum).

**Tavern Guild Thursday Bowling League:** Season starts Mar. 21; pre-season meeting, second floor, Park Bowl, 8 p.m.; four-person teams (fifth sub bowler optional); shadow bowling at 8:45 p.m., commence bowling 9 p.m.; \$9.50 per bowler (four-bowler minimum).

Now let's see what Tavern Guild teams are taking the taffy these days. Also, pay particular attention to the 200+/600+ listings for the TGGIBL.

In addition to at least one bowler from every team bowling a 200+ game, David Arnold of the Big Red team won a 700+ series patch from the ABC. ▼

## PARK BOWL TAVERN GUILD LEAGUES

Team Standings

TGSavingsBL, Feb. 7, Week 19

	W	L
3 Kanaka 1 Haole	56 1/2	19 1/2
Saving Graces	47 1/2	28 1/2
Ball Busters	44	32
On Your Mark	43 1/2	32 1/2
Panthers	42	34
3 Men and A Babe	39 1/2	36 1/2
Top Choyce	37	39
Spare Me	34	42
Cat's Away	33 1/2	42 1/2
All Girl Band	32	44
The Pin-Ups	31 1/2	44 1/2
Lost-For-Words	15	61

Don Gambell (194) 247 (610); John Chyka (135) 238; Don Manning (148) 221; Jerry Pepper (168) 211; Tim Mulvenon (198) 210, 210; Don Latt (173) 210; Bill Beiersdorfer (136) 206; Ken Kalani (178) 205

TGGoldenGateInvitationalScratchBL, Feb. 12, Week 18

	W	L
Spheniscidae	73	35
Big Red	67	41
DDT	62	46
Gefemefleufen	48	60
Gag's	47	61
On Strike	27	81

Don Gambell (192) 219, 276, 202 (697); David

Arnold (197) 268, 254, 222 (744); George Carico (189) 268, 223 (886); John Sella (158) 237; J.C. Halstead (188) 204, 223, (620); Tim Benton (197) 207, 219; David Mercier (163) 201, 201

TGThursdayBL, Feb. 7, Week 20

	W	L
Play With It, Ltd.	59	21
Bowlers w/Arms Akimbo	56	2
Mainliners	45	35
Choyce Meat	44	36
Pinpricks	43	37
Trax	41	39
Butch's Blitzers	39 1/2	40 1/2
Wild Balls	39	41
O.R.A.L.	38 1/2	41 1/2
Park Bowl	37	43
Still The 29's	36	44
Dustbusterz	34	46
Stud Pins	30	50

Tim Mulvenon (195) 215, 245, 213 (873); Hunter Bauman (183) 224; Phil Lewis (157) 224; Don George (189) 216, 203 (610); Ljubo Sleskovic (174) 211; Don Gambell (198) 210 (603); Mark Platis (168) 205; Russell Palmer (155) 203; Dan Becker (155) 200

## Pool

(Continued from previous page)

Thirty-two teams squared off last Tuesday night as the S.F. Pool Association kicked off its 26th season. Included in the mix of returning sponsors and players were many new faces and a new sponsor in Polk Street's Reflections.

League President Mike Macri has formed Reflections of Grandeur, composed partially of league veterans and some additional new players. He seems to have hit upon a successful combination as the new mix finds itself atop Division IV, tied with another newcomer-veteran blend in Karen Brandman's Special Destiny, which also posted a 12-4 victory.

Yet another 12-4 opening night wallop was delivered by Uncle Bert's UBI Too. The team holds the lead in Division III, a single game ahead of both Special Effects and Overpass Sharks.

Division II saw Amelia's Furies make an 11-5 splash that was good for a one-game advantage over both Swallow Spitters and Demonic Detour. It may be the first division lead in the Furies' long history.

Division I's defending champions, the Park Bowl Weevils, wasted no time in staking out the division by

winning their first 15 in a row. Detour Deviant Bernie King squelched the impending sweep by winning the evening's final game. The Weevils have yet to lose a match since forming last season.

Congratulations to opening night's 4/0 club: Mary Armentrout, Ron Barulich, Perry Bell, Marquita Booth, Michele Carroll, Denise Catanach, Jack Dunbar, Joe Glass, Mike Macri, Mark Miller, Ching Ng, Phil Nordeng, Joe Poole, Celeste Schulz and Lauren Ward.

There are still a few teams in need of players. Call JOE-POOL for more information.

### Apex Winners

At the Feb. 9 Apex Awards ceremony, the winners in pool were Lisa Duncan and Rick Bradford. Lisa, who picked up her second Apex, was the top-rated player on last season's Cinch Sorority. She also dominated the billiards competition at Gay Games III in Vancouver by claiming three gold medals and has returned to a seat on the SFFA Board of Directors for the coming season.

Rick Bradford claimed the men's award. Rick led his team, Cinch Sexy Six, to a third-place finish last season and had a top-four finish in the All-Star Tournament. He is also the senior member of the SFFA Board. ▼

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## Sports Calendar

### SF Water Polo

Thursdays, 6:30-8:30 p.m., and Saturdays, 9-10:30 a.m., at Coffman Pool, Visitation & Hahn. Men & women of all skill levels welcome. John, 621-0783.

### SF FrontRunners

Saturday Fun Run/Leisurely Walk, 9 a.m., at Stow Lake Boathouse, Golden Gate Park; no-host brunch follows. Tuesday Fun Runs, 6:30 p.m., at Ferry Bldg, Embarcadero; no-host dinner follows. Thursday Fun Runs, 6:30 p.m., at McLaren Lodge, Golden Gate Park; no-host dinner follows. Sunday Fun Runs, 10 a.m., location TBA. Rod, 621-2213.

### EastBay FrontRunners

For info call Roz, 939-3579, or Greg, 865-6792.

### Bay Area Distance Runners

For info call Dave, 626-1380, or Lois, 586-6013.

### Different Spokes Bicycle Club

Decide-and-Rides each Saturday & Sunday, 10 a.m., at McLaren Lodge, Golden Gate Park. All levels welcome. Weekly schedule, 282-1647. Write: PO Box 14711, SF 94114.

### SF Track & Field Club

Practice Sundays, 10 a.m., at Polo Fields, Golden Gate Park. All levels welcome. Rick, 626-8784.

(Continued on page 54)



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Escargot in the Shell with Garlic, Butter & Herbs (Chef's Special)	6.00
Fresh Salmon Ravioli with Dill Cream Sauce	5.00
Goat Cheese Salad with Radicchio, Walnuts, Port Wine Vinaigrette	4.25

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Patio Paella — Wild Mushrooms, Mussels, Jumbo Shrimp, Smoked Duck Sausage, Saffron Rice	12.95
Fresh Salmon Poached in White Wine with Shallots & Champagne Sauce	12.95
Grilled Medallions of Lamb Tenderloin with Garlic & Sweet Plum Sauce	13.95
Baby Lobster Tails Braised with Olive Oil, Shallots & Sweet Basil	15.95


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# This




• **Don't Make Me Say Things That Will Hurt You:** Doug Holsclaw's acclaimed one-man portrait of a stylish recluse plays Theatre Rhino's late-night programming thru Mar. 15, Fri. & Sat. at 10:30 p.m. 2926 16th St., SF. Call 861-6079.

**FRIDAY 22**

- **'Aberrant Behavior':** Featuring performers known for their identification with gay culture and the dilemmas they face as gay men. Curtis York's *Dick Trip* exposes the underbelly of political & religious ideologies. Jon Weaver's *Methods of Social Hygiene* uses visceral images & comic actions about money. Absolut Manpussy presents *You're Soaking in It: Selections From the Absolut Collection*. Feb. 21-23 at 8 p.m. \$4-6. New Langton Arts, 1246 Folsom, SF. Call 626-5416.
- **'Bare Essentials':** WING IT! Performance Ensemble creates new improv work based on the community's response to the events in the Persian Gulf in each of their six concerts. Feb. 22 & 23, Mar. 1, 2, 8 & 9 at 8 p.m. \$7-9. Open Arts Circle, 530 E. 8th St./6th Ave., Oakland, Phil. 465-2797.
- **'Lesbo-a-gogo':** Lesbian comic Lea DeLaria blends her wry, witty and sometimes vulgar brand of gay comedy with her potent talent as an earthy blues & scat singer. Feb. 20-24 at 8 p.m., also Feb. 22 at 10 p.m. \$10. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St., SF. 861-7933.
- **'Queering/Querying the Academy':** A working conference on Lesbian and Gay Studies in their socio-cultural contexts. Feb. 22-24 at University of California, Santa Cruz. Call Earl, (408) 459-8457, 459-2781 or 459-4777.
- **'More Garage Dances':** Presented by The High Risk Group Feb. 21-23 at 8:30 p.m. \$4-8. 1800 Square Feet, 719 Clementina/8th St., SF. 773-8706.
- **Tracy Rhoades' Exploding Roses Dance Ensemble:** Featuring the dance pieces *Magnificat*, *House of Bliss* and *Fall to Arms*. Feb. 21-23 at 8 p.m. \$5-10. LAB Theater, 1805 Divisadero/Bush, SF. 346-4063.

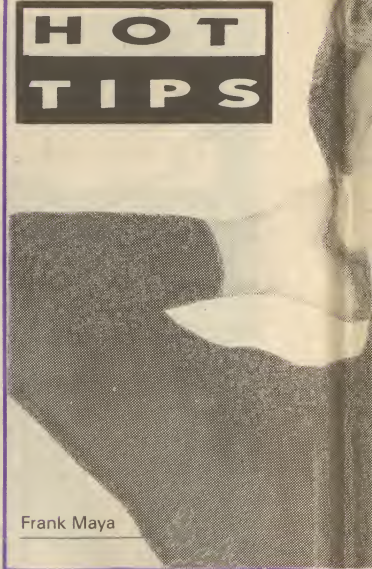
**SATURDAY 23**

- **Gay Comedy Night:** Emcee Mario Mondelli hosts comics Tom Ammann, Lisa Geduldig & Scott Capurro. 10 p.m. \$8. Josie's Cabaret & Juice Joint, 3583 16th St., SF. 861-7933.



• **Gay Asian Pacific Alliance:** Annual banquet at three-star Wu Kong Restaurant, Ricon Center, SF. No-host reception, multi-course feast, entertainment, raffle & keynote speaker Dr. Leland Yee, SF Board of Education. Feb. 23 at 6 p.m. \$50 per person. The incredible, sensual Iron Butterflies, above, will appear at the banquet and later in the evening at the SF AIDS Foundation's "Naked City Revue" at Colossus. Call 282-GAPA.

**HOT TIPS**



Frank Maya

**COMEDY**

- **'Unauthorized Biography':** New York's Frank Maya, an accomplished performance artist, brings his new show to Josie's Cabaret & Theatre. "Unauthorized Biography" is a series of funny, scary & sexy stories. Frank Maya will also perform selected pieces from his previous work, "The People," his takeoff on Angie Dickinson's *Police Woman*. 26-Mar. 10 at 8 p.m. Additional 10 p.m. shows on Mar. 27 & 28. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St./Market, SF. Reserv., 861-7933.

**PERFORMANCE**

- **'CREAM, Gay and Lesbian Artists in Performance':** A new dance and performance presented by Footwork. Area lesbian and gay artists in performances that experiment with dance, theater and new genres. Feb. 22 & 23, 7 p.m. Footwork, 3221 Divisadero, SF. 773-8706.
- **'We Keep Our Victims Ready':** Karen Finley, an artist who was catapulted into the center of the NEA controversy, performs a notorious and acclaimed one-woman tour de force. A truce of societal abuses that includes rape, alcoholism, ship and the daily oppression of women. Feb. 20-Mar. 21, 8 p.m. Theater, Ft. Mason Center, Marina & Buchanan, SF. 442-8800.

**VISUAL ART**

- **'For the Love of God: A Visual Interpretation of Greek Mythology':** Groleau that deal with images of same-sex love found in Greek mythology. Feb. 22, 6-8:30 p.m. On view thru Feb. 28. Footwork Studio, 3221 Divisadero, SF. 773-8706.

**FILM**

- **'AIDS Activist Video':** Activist video/filmmakers from the Bay Area present their work that documents AIDS activist events, crisis, and attempts to heighten public awareness about AIDS. \$3-5. San Francisco Cinematheque, SF Art Institute, 1015 Market, SF. 442-8800.

**LITERARY EVENT**

- **'Impact II':** A performance benefit by lesbian writers. National Lesbian & Gay Writers Conference. Featuring fiction & the Electric Poets, Holly Hughes, Sapphire and A. S. Byrd. Victoria Theater, 2961 16th St., SF. Tix available at the box office, 2961 16th St., SF. 442-8800.

• **A Different Light:** Melvin Pohl & Deniston Kay on *The Caregiver's Journey: When You Love Someone with AIDS*. 3:30 p.m. 489 Castro, SF. 431-0891.

• **'The Great San Francisco Crystal Fair':** Show & sale of gems, minerals, jewelry & metaphysical healing tools. Feb. 23, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Feb. 24, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. \$4. Ft. Mason Center, Bldg A, Laguna & Marina, SF. 383-7837.

• **'Lives of Resistance, Communities of Support':** One-day conference on war tax resistance & other forms of activism. 9:30 a.m.-7 p.m. \$10-25, includes lunch. UC Berkeley School of Journalism, Northgate of campus, Hearst & Euclid, Berkeley. 843-9877.

• **Bondage Buddies:** Bondage/S&M/leathersex safe-sex party in an extensive near-Castro dungeon. Call 292-3228.

• **Safe-Sex Glory Hole:** Sober event with sexy movies & refreshments. Males 18+ welcome. 8 p.m.-2 a.m. 746 Clementina, Apt. 2, SF. 621-1887.

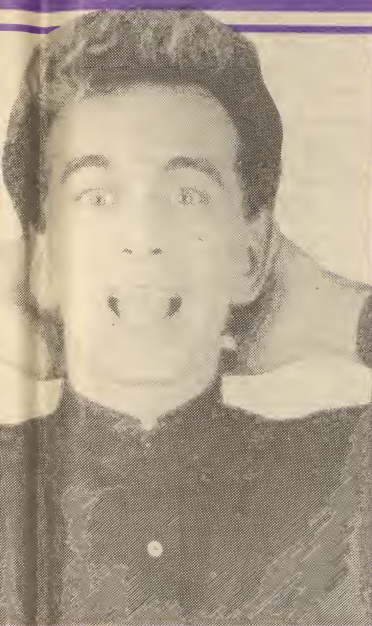
**SUNDAY 24**

- **Women's Dance:** Entertainment, door prizes, raffles, refreshments and old & young women to raise funds to send older low-income lesbians to the April 1991 Nat'l Lesbian Conference. 3-6 p.m. \$10 adv., \$12-22 at door (no one turned away for lack of funds). Sponsored by OLOC and GLOE, 626-7000.

BAY AREA REPORTER FEBRUARY 21, 1991 PAGE 50



# Week



Frank Maya, comedian, ranter, monologist and performer. Cabaret & Juice Joint for 13 performances in February. His new, scary and partially fictionalized biographical stories, from his previous shows, including "Letters from Dead Police Woman," "The Hindenberg Baby" and others. Feb. 18-20. Shows Mar. 1 & 8. No shows Mar. 3 & 4. \$10. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St., SF. 861-7933.

Performance: The Cream series is a bi-annual showcase by Footwork. The Cream concert features four Bay Area acts that reveal an emerging generation of artists experiences: Ruven Hannah, Jo Kreiter, Sara Mitchelson and Mark, 3221 22nd St./Mission, SF. Call 824-5044.

Play, an artist who gained national prominence last year for the NEA/censorship controversy, performs her now-famous play, *We Keep Our Victims Ready* explores a special case of alcoholism, children with AIDS, *Roe v. Wade*, censorship. 20-Mar. 3, plays Wed.-Sun. at 8 p.m. \$16-18. Cowell Theater, 3221 22nd St./Mission, SF. Call 552-3656.

on of Greek Myth: A series of drawings by artist James G. Love found in the stories of ancient Greece. Recep. Feb. 24. Footwork Studio, 3221 22nd St./Mission, SF. 824-5044.

makers from New York, Tom Kalin and Gregg Bordowitz, will be at activist events, addresses issues related to the AIDS crisis and the fight against AIDS. Feb. 24 at 8 p.m. at the Institute, 800 Chestnut, SF.

ian writers on the occasion of OutWrite '91: The National featuring Paula Gunn Allen, Cheryl Clarke, Judy Grahn, and Ana Maria Simo. Feb. 28 at 8 p.m. \$8 sliding scale. Available at A Different Light, Modern Times, Southern Exposure or info.

*The Ladies Against Women:* The Plutonium Players present a "consciousness-lowering refresher course" and biting satire. 8 p.m. \$7. Ashkenaz, 1317 San Pablo near Gilman, Berkeley. 525-5054.

*Menage in Concert:* The outstanding vocal ensemble performs at 4 p.m. \$6. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St./Market, SF. 861-7933.

*'Lesbians, Gay Men and the Gulf War':* Arab Gay Men (AGMN) & Dykes and Gay Guys Emergency Response (DAGGER) present a public forum for the gay & lesbian community. Wheelchair access, childcare, ASL interpreted. 3-5 p.m. \$3-5, no one turned away. New College, 777 Valencia/19th St., SF. 668-4982.

*'Black Voices Against the War':* Forum speakers include the first African-American women to become conscientious objectors. 4 p.m. \$2. Optional dinner 6:30 p.m. (\$5-6.50). Western Addition Cultural Center, 763 Fulton, SF. For childcare or info call 864-1278.

*SF Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade & Celebration Committee:* East Bay auditions for performers for the 1991 Celebration, 1-4 p.m. Bench & Bar, 120 11th St., Oakland. Call 864-3733.

*Hortiphiles:* Gardening group for lesbians, gays & friends. "Irrigation Alternatives in the Coming Year of Drought & Water Restrictions," by Tom Breslin of Urban Farmer at 11:30 a.m. Potluck & plant auction 12:30 p.m. Guests welcome. 851-1022 for SF location/info.

*Lesbian, Gay & Bisexual Koreans:* Monthly meeting for discussions, potlucks & special activities. 1-3 p.m. Call Lori, 563-8689.

## MONDAY 25

• **Gay Comedy Open Mike:** Emcee Maureen Brownsey hosts those who sign-up by phone by 7:30 p.m. Show at 8:30 p.m. \$4. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St., SF. 861-7933.

• **Sally Gearhart:** The Women's Spirituality Group of the Ministry of Light presents the feminist lesbian writer & newly retired SFSU professor. 7:30 p.m. Christ Presbyterian Church, 620 Del Ganado/Freitas Parkway, Terra Linda.

• **Closet Space for Sexual Minority Youth:** A safe place to talk or hang out for lesbian, gay, bisexual & transgender youth up to 18 years old. Mondays, 7-10 p.m. 18th Street Services, 217 Church, SF. John, 626-7000, or Jason, 749-2138.

• **Support Group for Battered Lesbians:** Closed 8-week group for lesbians subjected to domestic violence. Call Vincenza at Woman Inc., 864-4777.

## TUESDAY 26

• **Immune Enhancement Program:** "Alternative Drug Treatments," lecture by David Baker, R.N. 7:30 p.m. 3450 16th St., SF. 252-8711.

• **'The Faces of AIDS in the U.S.':** Free lecture by Donald Francis, M.D. 7 p.m. SF State's Creative Arts Bldg.'s Knuth Hall, 1600 Holloway, SF. SFSU's Cindy Kolb Donation Fund benefit features Cleve Jones & panels to be added to NAMES Project quilt. 5-7 p.m. \$5. Pyramid II, SFSU Student Union. 338-1665.

## WEDNESDAY 27

• **A Different Light:** Poet, journalist & playwright Kenny Fries returns to SF to delight us with his words. 7:30 p.m. 489 Castro, SF. 431-0891.

• **SF Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade & Celebration Committee:** Special needs & celebration committee meetings at 7 p.m. Call 864-3733.

• **Bay Area Coalition for Our Reproductive Rights:** General meeting 7 p.m. Unitarian Center, 1606 Bonita, Berkeley. 626-5510.

• **Sacred Dance Circle for the Gay & Lesbian Community and Friends:** Folk dancing of different places, times & types with an emphasis on building the energy of the circle, sharing community & honoring ourselves. All taught, beginners welcome. 2nd & 4th Wednesdays, 8-10 p.m. \$5 donation. SF Dance Theatre, 60 Brady/Market & Gough, SF. Laura or Howard, 359-0207.

## THURSDAY 28

• **'Hate Violence and the Sexual Minorities Community':** A question-and-answer forum with representatives from community & civic organizations from the East Bay. 7 p.m. Free. West Berkeley Health Center, 2031 6th St./University, Berkeley. Kyle, 652-4610, or Scott, 548-8283.

• **ETVC, the TV/TS and Friends Social and Support Club:** Presenting "Fashion Fling," an end of the month social with modeling by members. First timers especially welcome. 8 p.m. SF location. Call 849-4112 or write ETVC, Box 6486, SF 94101.

• **Gay Men's Sketch:** Drop-in drawing class for all skill levels. Classical nude modeling by Physique gold winner, black bodybuilder Carlis Sharpe. 7 p.m. \$12. MCC, 150 Eureka, Rm. 205, SF. 621-6294.



• **Screenplay:** By Istvan Orkeny. The Z Collective presents an allegorical look at the Communist "show trials" of the late '40s, in which Orkeny uses circus performers to spin a tale of accusation & betrayal. Thru Mar. 25, plays Fri., Sat. & Mon. at 8 p.m., Sun. at 2 p.m. \$8, no one turned away. Norse Auditorium, 275 Hayes, SF. 666-2317.

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### MARK AMEEN

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Reading, Monday Feb. 25, 7:30 p.m.

### MELIN POHL & DENISTON KAY

Co-authors of *The Caregiver's Journey: When You Love Someone With AIDS*.

Saturday Feb. 23, 3:30 p.m.

### KENNY FRIES

Poet, journalist and playwright, Fries' writing is thoughtfully woven with rare skill.

He will be in town

Wednesday, Feb. 27, 7:30 p.m.

STEVE SILVER PRESENTS

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Pictured: Leslie Carrara as *Madonna*, Clay Adkins as *Elvis*, Richard Pardini as *Sonny*, Joan Benson as *Cher* and Renée Lubin as *Whoopi Goldberg*

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# Wilder

(Continued from page 36)

Sunny von Bulow's narration in this year's *Reversal of Fortune*. MacMurray, Bill Holden in *Boulevard and Stalag 17* (1953), Kirk Douglas in *The Big Carnival* (1951), Jack Lemmon in *Some Like It Hot* (1959) and James Cagney in *One, Two, Three* (1961) are all con men, grifters, dupers — all looking for the inside track and using the rest of humanity for selfish ends. Yet Wilder actually makes most of them endearing — even celebrates their base-

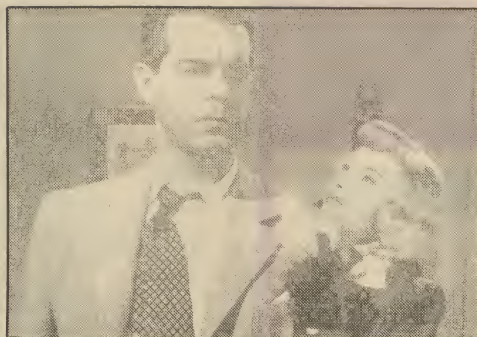
## Seminal Classic

Like most writer-directors — Preston Sturges comes to mind — Wilder favors long takes and the talkier the better. He exploits this to its fullest effect in something like *One, Two, Three*, which has got to be the fastest paced *dialogue* film in history — though no less of a delight because of that.

*Some Like It Hot* is a seminal classic that alerted America and the world that not only isn't drag such a terrible pastime, it might also actually be *fun*! Plump Monroe and wacky Lemmon ignite the ample high jinks.

*Kiss Me Stupid* is Wilder's more sordid, shoddy and squalid masterpiece. Dumb, arch, strained and incredibly off-putting, it's his anti-commercial extravaganza in which the filmic populace is even more seedy and repellent than usual.

One trembles to predict



Fred MacMurray and Barbara Stanwyck star in Billy Wilder's *Double Indemnity*.

that works like *The Apartment* — in 1960 beating out an even unominated *Psycho* for the Academy Award — and *Irma La Douce* (1963) are unwatchable today, much less film-school fodder. But perhaps surprises are in store: I anticipate reacquaintance with *The Seven Year Itch* (1955) and *Stalag 17* with optimistic enthusiasm. And surely Audrey Hepburn will supply the needed heartbeat to diversions like *Sabrina* (1954) and *Love in the Afternoon* (1957).

Perhaps the one work of Wilder's that is his most personal and that only grows stronger over the years is *The Big Carnival*, also known as *Ace in the Hole*. They don't come any blacker than this one; it turns Capra small-town Americana on its ear. Here mass hysteria and greed are pitched to a degree of horror film-like perversion.

Wilder had themes and repeated obsessions galore, an occasional striking camera an-

gle or set up (though one wonders how much those contributions stemmed from the ideas of his cinematographers) but not much sense of visceral editing or filmic pace. He didn't color the world visually like his superior contemporaries: Walsh, Vidor, Lang, Welles et al. Still, when in works like *The Big Carnival*, *Sunset Boulevard* and *Double Indemnity*, he cut loose with his own unique brand of misanthropy, the screen crackled with welcome and startling venom. ▼

## Lite

(Continued from page 38)

The suggestion is that they serve as modern armor, chains of metal beads and plastic rosaries replacing the chain mail of old.

It is the sort of wear associ-

ated with the warriors of AIDS activism and the "new clone," but these particular uniforms have been retired. Why? Have the activists who wore them died in battle? Is the war over?

Likewise Bauer's crested scrolls and the intricately designed coffins which house them have lost some charm by being forced to call themselves "art." Their symbolism, personal and coded, connotes that these are sacred objects.

Yet their overt display (facing the gallery window for every passerby to see) contradicts or ignores their status as anything but consumable product.

Kit Cameron's irons with icons are cute one-liners, but their humor is overlaid with redundant imagery. Gold-leaf ironing boards cast in the warm glow of votive candles are calming in their implications of meditative ritual. Unfortunately, the more interesting question is not clearly addressed: what is being ironed out?

Cristina Emmanuel's work was carefully thought out. In complying with the show's theme, she not only attempted to draw parallels between the Middle Ages and present day, she also set out to correct a few errors of history. Her *Crucified Son* series is a compassionate plea to end territorialism and the violence it breeds.

However, like the previously mentioned works, Emmanuel's catholic styling seems only robbed of some greater potential within the shackles of a frame. A fuller use of her drawings and paintings might be as sketches for backdrops used in a

theatrical portrayal of a religious war.

She has more success with her painting, *If God Were a Woman*. The image is a refreshing rewriting of the Old Testament's creation myth. Here the female creator does not scorn Adam and Eve for partaking of the fruit of knowledge, instead she invites them to stay on in Eden — an offer they accept.

## Finest Piece

At the gallery's back wall one finds Peter Edlund's *Last Judgment*, a triptych painted in the Byzantine style. It is arguably the show's finest piece and certainly the most exacting in its historical references.

*Last Judgment* reflects the head-in-the-sand mentality of the religious equation plague — God's will. On the right is Hades, where sinners burn eternally; on the left the saved parade single file, trampling panels from The Names Quilt which carpet the stairway to Heaven.

It is an exquisite work of art doubling as artifact, in which Edlund draws a most disturbing parallel indeed: that nothing has changed, that as a race we have not learned from our mistakes.

Overall, it is an uneven show. None of the works is badly done, but few fulfill the curatorial objective. With the noted exceptions, "Dark Ages" is more like a visit to an Upper Haight boutique — not an unenjoyable experience but disappointing in the context of a gallery. ▼

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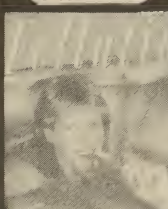
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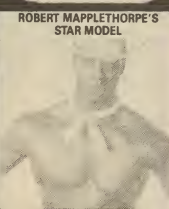
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VERY HANDSOME, 30 Y.O., 5'11", 170 lbs, musc. build, dark brown hair, green eyes, open minded, playful, looking for a few good men, no fets, fems, drugs. Ext. 3490

NOSTEROIDS-NO FEMSI! 30 y.o. blond/green, 6'2", 175 lbs, well hung wants to build up at gym and work out in bedroom with discreet natural bodybuild, over 6'. Ext. 3491

JAMACIAN MEN AND ALL who are lonely for someone safe sex must be able to perform and satisfy, poss rel. Ext. 3492

WM, 38 Y.O., 138 LBS, handsome, muscular, seeks other WM, gd/kgng, good build for hot sex. I am F/a and have a great butt for safe Grip. Ext. 3493

FREEEROTIC MASSAGE, X-Movies and ? For muscular, ahly or hung young men, 18-40, First timer OK. Also weekly suck parties in El Cerrito. Call Ken! Ext. 3494

PROF MALE WOULD LIKE to meet hot men in Santa Rosa, 1 am Filipino-Portuguese, 5'6", small waist, 30, work out. Like tall, hairy, mustached men. Safe! Ext. 3495

GWM SEEKS GAM! Me: 50, silver hair, beard, passionate, stable, fun-loving, serious, seeking friend and safe sex for 1000 or 1 nites. You: 25-40 y.o. Ext. 3496

LOOKING FOR THE right person for 3-way! Me: Ital. top, 50's, My lover: Bk bottom, 29, You: 25-40, hung and into both of us! Ext. 3501

GBM, 40, VERS., 5'9", 160 lbs, considerate, quiet guy, seeks 18 y.o.+, thin, bottom, F/buddy, vers A+. Cigs/Pot OK. Why be lonely? Romantic, caring, safe sex! New in town/inexperienced? OK! Ext. 3497

SEXY & VERY ATTRACTIVE Blacktop, 29 y.o., 6', 185 lbs, wants to spank your firm round bubble ass with my big strong hands. Will warm your bottom in every way. Be under 35 y.o. Ext. 3498

ABSOLUTE MASO SEEKS no limits S top, GWM, 50's, 6', 165 lbs, beard, tattoo, masculine. I go where you lead. Age: 40y.o.+, any race, bondage and do it. Couples, groups are OK!! Ext. 3499

SURFER/SWIMMER, 25 Y.O., bl/bl, 6'2", 170 lbs, smooth, trim, all muscle, vers., wants to meet liberal, rowdy, masc., modern young guys into rock n'roll and sex. I am very gd/kgng, you are too. Ext. 3500

ATTENTION EXHIBITIONIST, narcissistic, muscle studs who enjoy flexing, teasing, comparing your physics to my out of shape, chubby body. Enjoy humiliating weaklings? Kick and sand in my face. Ext. 3503

MONTEREY AREA NUDIST, WM, 38, 6', 160 lbs, brn/hazel seeks other male nudist for friendship. Prefer 40ish or younger for Nude social group forming!! Ext. 3504

WM, 28 Y.O., 6'3", 8" +, 180 lbs, colt material! Seeks same but uncult. Ext. 3509

HANDSOME ATHLETIC GWM, 35 YEARS OLD, 6', 170 lbs, HIV+, into safe and wild sex with muscular, healthy, versatile, straight looking non-smoker. Like cute butts and roving tongue. Ext. 3505

SAN FRANCISCO BEAR MASTER, 46 y.o., 5'10", 200 lbs, black hair, mustache, blue eyes, laidback, long lasting cockfoder. Wants relationship with mustached or bearded moustache: personal servant, hungry cocksucker, dog-collared pet! Ext. 3508

HOT ASIAN, 22 Y.O., clean-cut, seeks masculine, collegiate types under 30 y.o. for J/o, butplay, life spanking and safe sex! Blond and/or hairy A+. Ext. 3506

SOUTH BAY ENEMA MASTER, trim, in-shape, X-Marine, will initiate/discipline your butt. Take it like a man!! Ext. 3507

SOUTH BAY! ASIAN ROOM MATE AND/OR BUDDY wanted by extremely attractive GWM, 31 years old. No expectations. Just fun and friendship. HIV+. Ext. 3502

WHATS UP MAN? Dude, rocker/punk type into sex pistols and whisky looking for other dudes, 18-25 y.o. to have drink and J/o sessions with. First I fill you up and then I spank you till U beg me to stop! Ext. 3510

S. COAST MENDOCINO GWM, 31 y.o., 6'2", 190 lbs, 8" cut, brn/brn, HIV+, leather bottom, seeks taller, hot leather tops. Ext. 3449

GWM, 42, PROF. artist, seeks sensitive, affectionate man, 35-42 y.o., non-smoker, educated, into art for friend, possible relationship. Ext. 3436

ATTRACTIVE/INTELLIGENT (?), 27 y.o., 160 lbs, blk/brn, Asian/American but looks European wants safe modern friends to play with in SF. Ext. 3485

CULTURED YOUNG MAN, sought to share delights of SF with successful prof. man: 39, 5'11", 160 lbs. Ext. 3443

HOT CHUBBY GWM, looking for hot times. I am 5'11", 260 lbs, hairy, moustache, 40's. Give me a call! Ext. 3292

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GWM, 47, ORAL ARTIST non-stop, seeks masc., Afro-American, Latin, mdl Eastern man who enjoys long hot safe sessions. Lasting friendship possible. Ext. 3027

TRIM 29 Y.O. LKNG FOR FUN! Spirited, attr., gym-toned, 6', 155 lbs, brn, brn, GYM wants men in 20-30's for hot & sensual flings, also open to relationship. Ext. 3026

MASTER SEEKS SLAVE, for permanent relationship, into discipline, humiliation & much more. Me: 41, 6'4", 240 lbs, bear type. You: 20-40, smooth, in-shape! Ext. 3025

BM, 200 LBS, 5'10", wants Asian man with many desires. Would like to experience and service you, please let me know what you want! Ext. 3022

HOT, VERY INDSM & HUNG GWM, 29, 6'1", 185 lbs, blond BB, with thick 8", wants to meet other very hndsm studs: built, musc., musc., endowed, for hot oral/anal action. Non-smoker only! Ext. 3024

BERKLEY GBM, CHUBBY, seeks cute, young WM, to suck on. I am 6'1", 270 lbs, 38 y.o., nice looking, clean & hungry. Open to regular basis connection. Ext. 3021

39 Y.O. GWM, HIV+, looking for Daddy, bear/master, long term only, into leather, toys, S/M, love and respect given in return by leather teddy bear/slave. Ext. 3020

BOY WANTED BY GWM, 25 y.o., tall and dark hvy. You must be GWM, 18-29 y.o., cleancut, eager to please, healthy. Light B/D only!! Ext. 3019

SPREAD YOUR CHEEKS AND SLIDE down my long hot tongue. Hot WM, 6', 150 lbs, 34 y.o., brn/blue, will worship your hot butt!! Ext. 3018

KICK BACK, RELAX!! Jockstraps, jockeys hiding your hot tool, balls turn me on! Big tooled GWM, 48, HIV, eagerly sniffs around, worships your balls and man meat. You're tops, SIR! Ext. 3017

I LOVE FAT MEN, let's make relentless love. Me: 5'10", 180, very attractive and hard body. Ext. 3016

YOU CAN'T TOUCH THIS! Handsome, husky, hung GBM, 28, 5'8", seeks horny young boys, 18-28 y.o. for fun, friendship and excellent service! Ext. 3000

EAST BAY STUDENTS 18-25 Y.O. SOUGHT!! I am 31 y.o. - Give free blowjobs, private and safe! Ext. 3010

GOODLOOKING YNG BODYBUILDER hung, fun loving, smooth, horny seeks safe in Bay Area. Must be in good shape & healthy, open to meeting others. Ext. 3009

FRIENDLY HARDWARE MAN! GWM, 6'5", 175 lbs, into sharing growing, cuddling, kissing, sleeping close, bald, hearing or physically impair. OK. Ext. 3008

ATTR. GBM, 5'10", light complected, hzl eyes, very nice body, looking for nice looking, well built individual that's financially secured and seeking a long term loving and caring relationship. Ext. 3007

VERY ATTR. MALE, blond/grn, well built, 29, seeks very attr., well built, clean cut, str. acting, hairy, sane Italian men for day time sex and fun! Ext. 3006

29 Y.O. EXTRA hands, masc., athl., very sexual top, 5'11", 158 lbs, seeks patient, firm, attr., endowed top to show me intense pleasure - I've given to bottoms! Ext. 3514

GWM, 21, HIV-, NON-SMOKER, no drugs, light drinker. Likes movies, music, shopping, honest/open minded people, seeks friendship with gay men any age or race. No phonies, please! Ext. 3513

TURNABOUT IS FAIR PLAY! Top needs to teach me new moves. GWM, 36 y.o., 6', 215 lbs, HIV-, seeking attractive GBM's, 23-30 y.o. with 7" Ext. 3512

SMART & SHAMELESSLY sexy GWM 30 Y.O., 5'11", 150 lbs, brn/brn, swimmers build, seeks subm. sexmates, 25-35, hands-, in-shape ready for work-out! Ext. 3510

GWM, 32, BR/GR, 185 LBS, GA/P, gd/kgng, seeks short bottom for relationship. In, 25-35 y.o., cigs/beer OK, stable and HIV-. Ext. 3433

BUDDIES/LOVER 18-39 y.o. wanted by hot GWM, 30, 6'1", 170 lbs, into 50's, rock, good times, no fet or fems. Ext. 3434

MAN'S MAN F...BUDDY! GWM, 30's, gd/kgng, masc., sensitive, beard, mostly top, seeks gdlkg, maso, buddy w/ facial hair for safe daytime play. Turn-on-blue-collar looks, vulnerability, 501s, cigs. Ext. 3430

MONTEREY AREA! Strikingly hndsm, sensual, loving, romantic, tall, trim, hairy, stached, mature man seeks lg term rel. with "Mr. Right", who is very hndsm, phys. fit, honest, caring, fun, ready to meet "man of his dreams". Ext. 3016

SO. MARIN HEAD- WM, 37 y.o., 6', 245 lbs, HIV-, will service clean, N/S, WM's, special service for BB's! Ext. 3015

E-BAY GBM, wants to meet qual., hung, 8.5" +, top men, 35-50, for dining, cult. & sexual gd times. Me: 6', 170 lbs, 9", 32" waist, educ., traveled, profess. Ext. 3014

TAKE A RIDE in my hunky bow legs & square hand butt, thick 9" stick shift standard! Test drive available for GWM, 6' + and 8" +, if you got it this rods 4 U! Ext. 3013

BLACK GROUP PARTY - GBM's only! Call for invitation to occ., priv., discr., safe party of 4-8 men! U: 40-, trim, musc, horny, clean, serious, safe! Ext. 3012

HOMEBODY, Hayward area, GWM, balsaing, 6', 140 lbs, 26, HIV-, likes to cuddle needs topan 30-40 y.o., discr., stable, for relationship, no one nighters. Ext. 3518

LOVER MATERIAL! Me: fun, inshape, cut, gd/kgng, healthy HIV+, GWM, 28, 5'10", 152 lbs. YOU: GWM, 25-34, inshape, vers., enjoy intense sex. Ext. 3520

HANDSOME, INTELL. GWM, masc. musc., blue collar prof., 34, 5'10", 178 lbs, HIV+, sharing, caring, into life. You: 22-32, goal orient., attr., enjoy great sex, companionship and more. Ext. 3521

PARTY BETWEEN MY LEGS! 8 1/2" x-thick cut, hands, masc white stud, 29, 6'1", 170 lbs, brn/grn. Available for dgs hours, long service, soft or hard. You supply party favors, videos - I bring the meat! Ext. 3517

TRIM, TONED AND TANED GWM, loves to strip, J/O outside or semi public places. Do you like to watch? Ext. 3483

38 Y.O. GWM IN FRESNO AREA, travels to Bay Area. Me: handsome, provisional, str. looking, 5'11", HIV-, want to meet GWM, 21-35 y.o., HIV-, for gourmet dinners, theater, tennis, travel, laughs and fun 69 sex. No drugs or hustlers. Ext. 3482

GBM, 32 Y.O., HANDSOME, looking for real love with handsome GWM, 30-34 y.o., possible relationship if you're the right guy! Ext. 3481

HANDSOME ATHLETIC GWM, 28 y.o., HIV+, seeks boy/friend with sense of humor, intelligent, eclectic pls, no smokers, no drugs! Ext. 3479

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# Must-Read

(Continued from page 39)

leaves for college in New York, where he eventually moves in with Claire, a hipster who's been through the erotic wringer one too many times and longs for a baby. Jonathan finds sex with a bartender named Erich, but his heart belongs to Claire. Together, Jonathan and Claire establish a home.

But years later, when Bobby shows up on their doorstep, things change: Bobby and Claire become lovers

and Jonathan feels excluded and jealous. Jonathan realizes he loves them both and abruptly flees.

Claire becomes pregnant. And when Bobby accidentally runs into Jonathan on the street a few months later, a reconciliation begins. The trio decides to raise "their" baby together, and the final section of the novel describes their creating a home at the end of the world.

## Almost Perfect

*A Home at the End of the World* is almost a perfect novel. Cunningham's characters are alive. They are made real by Cunningham's re-

markable use of language. His voice is simple but versatile and extremely moving.

Within a single chapter Cunningham will throw a punch, scratch your back, and pull the rug out from under you. He keeps you guessing. And like all great writers, he leaves something behind.

There are a few problems: the different characters speak with identical voices. It's irksome that as an adult Jonathan never gets love and sex from the same person. And toward the end of the novel, when Erich is sick with AIDS, Jonathan's HIV status is, frustratingly, never disclosed.

But these problems are easily overlooked. The fact that you care about Jonathan's health and wonder what's going to happen to the characters after the novel ends is proof of the author's genius.

In *Sexing the Cherry*, Jeanette Winterson wrote, "It is certainly true that a criterion for true art ... is its ability to take us where the artist has been." Cunningham sweeps the reader into his world on the first page of this novel and never lets you go for a second. *A Home at the End of the World* is true art, a must-read that's easily one of the best gay-themed novels ever. ▼

# Spring Writing Class

Beginning Tuesday, April 16, Bo Huston will teach a class in short story writing at A Different Light Bookstore. The 10-week class is especially designed to encourage and assist gay and lesbian writers; a goal of the class is to work on fiction for publication.

Class sessions will be held upstairs at A Different Light Bookstore, Tuesday evenings from 7 to 9 p.m. Total fee for the class is \$200, with a registration fee of \$50.

Huston is the author of *Horse and Other Stories*, a collection of short fiction published in 1990, and the novel, *Remember Me*, due out in March 1991.

This class has a limited enrollment; students must pre-register. Interested writers are invited to send a writing sample, information about themselves and any writing classes they have taken and a \$50 registration fee to Huston in care of A Different Light Bookstore, 489 Castro St., SF 94114. For further information, phone 641-9470. ▼

# Schulman Reads

Author Sarah Schulman, February 1991 Writer-in-Residence at Intersection for the Arts, will read from her works Feb. 25-26 at 8 p.m. Schulman's published novels include *After Delores* and *People in Trouble*. Her newest novel, *Empathy*, will be published this spring.

The author will read from her published works Feb. 25 (followed by a conversation with the audience) and from *Empathy* Feb. 26. The readings' organizers say there will be a "public interview/candid coffee-esque klatch with local poet and performer Carla Harryman" following the second night's reading.

Intersection is located at 446 Valencia. For more information, phone 626-2787. ▼

# Sports Calendar

(Continued from page 48)

## Tavern Guild Bowling League

For info call Mal, 752-2366.

## SF Women's Business Bowling League

Sundays at 6 p.m. at Park Bowl, 1855 Haight. Mal, 752-2366.

## Stonewall Climbers

Call 255-3162 or 648-3059 for info.

## Rock Climbers

For info call Mark Mueller, (617) 288-6419.

## Golden Gate Wrestling Club

Tuesday & Friday practices at 7 p.m. and Sundays at 12:30 p.m. at the Eureka Valley Rec. Center, 100 Collingwood. All skill levels, ages and ethnicities welcome. Gary, 558-9195, or Gene, 821-2991.

## SF Wrestling Club

All age groups, ability levels and weight classes welcome; lightweights are especially encouraged. Call 538-8490 or 821-9721.

## Bay Area Boxing Club

For info call Greg, 255-7361.

## SF Women's Flag Football

For info call Michelle, 431-7636.

## SF Trojans

For info call Bernard, 824-7048.

## Sunday Night Volleyball Club

Sundays, 8 p.m., for beginners & intermediates; advance players Saturday mornings at the Eureka Valley Rec. Center, 100 Collingwood. \$4. All skill levels welcome. Tony, 255-2781.

## Gay Volleyball

Sundays, 11 a.m.-3 p.m., in the school yard at 18th St. & Deharo. All welcome, even beginners. Jay, 864-0257.

## South Bay Volleyball Association

Free-play and practice every Sunday from 2-5 p.m., 1840 Benton St., Santa Clara. All skill levels welcome. Teams forming to play in gay tournaments throughout California. Mark, 960-1267.

## Gay Softball League

For info call Len, 864-3220.

## Bay Area Racquetball Club

Sundays, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., at Schoeber's Athletic Club, South SF. All skill levels welcome. Wref, 626-7758.

## Gay Tennis Federation

For info write to 2215-R Market St., No. 109, SF 94114.

## Birds of a Feather Badminton

Mondays, 7-9 p.m., at Mission High School and Tuesdays, 7-9:30 p.m., at Eureka Valley Rec. Center. Pat, 285-1743.

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## SF Spikes

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## Tsunami Gay/Lesbian Swim Team

Sundays, 10-11:45 a.m., at SF Rec. & Park King Pool, 3rd St. & Carrol. Mondays, 7:30-9 p.m., Wednesdays, 6:15-7:30 p.m., Thursdays, 6:15-8 p.m., at SF Rec. & Park Hamilton Pool, Geary & Hamilton. Call 626-0561 or 255-9091.

# People and Personals

## PEOPLE

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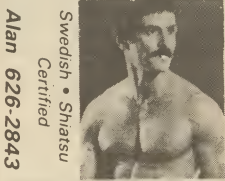


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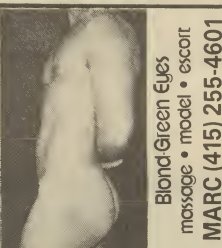
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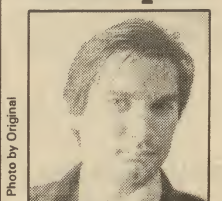


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# People and Personals

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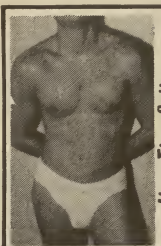
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Castro/Noe Valley loc.  
Russ 558-9079 90min/\$35



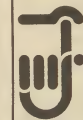
**Prostate Massage**  
• Includes full body Swedish massage  
1 hr. \$45in/\$65out  
Christopher 285-9710

### WHEN ONLY THE BEST WILL DO!!!

Smooth, Trim, Muscl, Hung 8' & Thick. Hands. Friendly, Affectionate Masseuse gives you  
**ALL THE EXTRAS!**  
Many Satisfied Repeaters. Near Church/Market.  
In/Out. Major Hotels OK. Visa/M.C.  
Special afternoon rates available.  
**Call J.J. 985-9871**

### Sensual Full Body Massage

\$30-\$50 in • \$40-\$60 Out  
Larry 252-0644 24 hrs.



### SHIATSU

an art of healing  
**Mohamed C.M.T. 863-4660**

Full Body Ecstasy. Butt +  
822-2513, out \$60

### BLACK D'LITE

Expert hand job 995-4798

Prostate massage, hot \$30  
995-4746

\*\*\* Let it Go! \*\*\*  
One fine touch for stress relief. Your inner/outer workout.  
\* Marc, 27, bld, gr, tan, in/out, \$35, 552-8303  
\*\*\* Tonite \*\*\*

### Professional Swedish Massage

Deep Relaxing Body Work by Certified Masseuse/BB.  
\$40/75 min.—In  
David 221-7364

### TWO BLACK BROTHERS

Very Handsome Ex-Football Players. Extraordinary, Erotic, Sensual Massage. Professional & Healing.

**Gus & Clyde 588-7991**



### DAYTIME MASSAGE

For the best call  
Christopher 255-5964  
In/out/PWAs

### Deep Muscle/Neuromuscular MASSAGE



1000 hrs. training, 3 yrs. exp.  
Strong • Reliable • Personable • Excellence  
Jamie, L.M.T. 673-2239

### 100% PLEASURE

Rugged looks, 33, 6', 195, bl/bl bisexual look for the best in relaxation, complete, legit., nude massage  
\$45/\$65, 24HRS.

**DAN 928-0302**

### Jacuzzi & Massage

Relax... Relax... Relax...  
First you feel the warm, swirling water of the Jacuzzi... then a wonderful, relaxing Swedish-Esalen massage on my table.  
\$44/1 1/2 hrs. or \$60/2 1/2 hrs. without Jacuzzi:  
\$36/1-1/4 hrs. or \$54/2 hrs.  
Bruce Cowan, certified and experienced. In the Castro  
**626-2026**

Young cute  
smooth body Asian. Out only  
Jun 774-4123 Beep.

swedish table warm oil  
soothing gdlkg in only  
knob hill \$40 922-7812  
an excellent massage

\$30 Erotic Nude Massage  
★ Bill 441-1054. Hot! ★

All men 50+. Best \$35 massage.  
Great! Nick 552-5059.

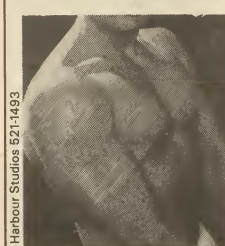
Marin-SF, Hot BB Massage 10 am-10 pm \$50/70 Ken 459-4217

Asian American Masseuse  
Certified, \$50/\$60. 285-9019

### SAN JOSE HUNK

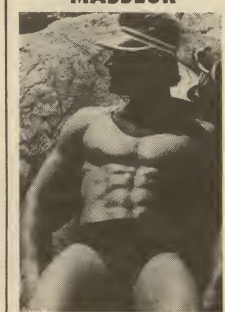
6'1", 190, sexy, masc, gorgeous, hot bod. (408) 559-7524

### PROFESSIONAL MASSAGE



**Robert 567-6015**

### PUERTO RICAN MASSEUR

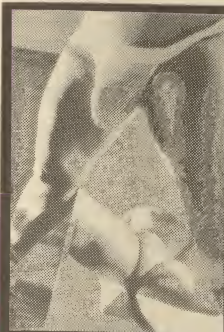


**647-4423**



# People and Personals

## MODELS & ESCORTS



Ram Photo 553-8172

**Franco 252-0775**

**Young, Smooth  
STALLION**



**241-9313**

**SEXY GUY**  
Hung 9" and the Hottest!



**775-4771 • 24 hrs.**

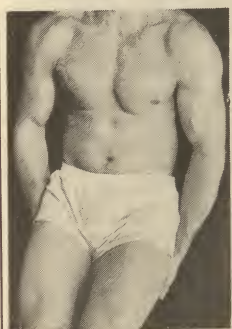
**CLEAN & SOBER**  
9" x 7" Perfect Top. 24hrs.  
100in/125out 864-4010 Rod

Tall & lean, thick 7 1/2", cut  
**ON YOUR KNEES!**  
Only \$35/\$50 Sean 552-9281

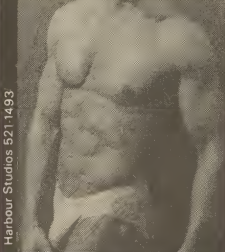
Hot Thick 9 1/2" Handsome 38yrs  
6' 165lbs, short beard and  
moust. loves getting attn. from  
hungry men, \$60. Tom 441-0509  
verbal call back

Gd/kg, hairy, 8 1/2", verbal  
**IRISH STUD**  
Mike 673-4771

**DAN 922-3645**



Masculine • Handsome • Friendly



**DAVID 929-7336**

**IRISH EYES**

6'1", 190 brun hr, 31,  
gdlkg muscle-guy & hung.  
Seeing is believing.  
BRAD 255-9615

Safe, Erotic Play. Kissing &  
Mutual J/O and ... ? Handsome,  
27 yrs, 24 hrs. Out only.  
Chris 861-9940

Hung Thick and Huge Blond Big  
Balls Hard Body 821-3425

Talent Comes in All Sizes  
**SIZE 15 SHOES**  
and everything else to go with it!  
This 35 y.o. tall rugged great  
looks teddy bear is up to anything  
you can dream up. Let's rub our  
fantasies together, 979-5685

**THE BOTTOM LINE**  
2 Hot Bottoms available.  
995-4788, ask for Scott.

Get attention by versatile  
**HOT BUTCH PUNK**  
6'2" out \$100 Greg 773-8041

I Kiss, I Touch, I Give  
**GOOD LUST**  
in Marin County, 461-4135

**SONOMA COUNTY HEAD!**  
Great Time by Expert  
call back req.  
(707) 528-7454

**BAR TALK**

**1-900  
844-2BAR**

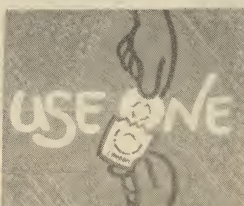


PERSONALS

**STUDGUY**

Dominant young stud. Into  
tough dirty talk and safe  
scenes. Open minded.  
Gorgeous mega-thick hose!  
Who loves being a top.  
Callback required.

**Buddy \$85 626-8535**



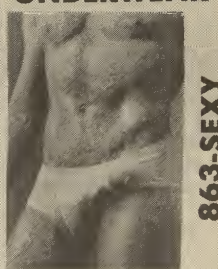
• **FACE THIS!** •



**WOLF • 753-6539**

CALL BACK REQUIRED

**UNDERWEAR**



**863-SEXY**

**OPTIONAL**  
6' 176# brn/blu 9x6  
\$100 • Massage Included

**XXTRA BIG**  
Smooth, cute 22 yrs.  
boyish stud  
\$100 in/ \$120 out  
821-2894 Timm  
**XXTRA THICK**

**PERFECTLY HUNG STUD**  
**MEATY 9" TOOL**  
Cum give attntn. to a 6'3", 195lb  
man. Straight & beg. welcome—  
indulge yourself today!  
**JOHN 979-6898**

Lorenzo 431-0366

Bondage Fantasies  
2 Men and Playroom  
Novices welcome. 995-4788

**MULATTO 9"**

Hot, sexy, passionate "Blanco  
hombres y Espanol hombres mi  
negocio!" call: 775-4771, 24hrs.

**SMOOTH TANNED BLOND**  
Bodybldr, 26yrs, 5'9", 155#, 8"  
cut, a real hunk! Boyd 550-6833

**LEATHER TOP MAN**  
Sling, toys, F/F, T/T, B/D, butch,  
dirty blond, 5'9", 175, mustch,  
37. Let me stretch and expand  
your experiences. 15 yrs exp. An-  
dy 861-2668, \$70.

**DARKMAN**

\$80 out only 621-0334

Skatepunk (cute)  
Yng., fun & hung  
Dexter 541-5024

If you want to please a  
tall well-built man with a  
hairy chest and 9 hot inches  
call John  
978-0163  
Call back required  
**NEVER IN A HURRY**

**BIG GUY**

Gd/kg, vers. student, 26, ex-  
football player build (6'1",  
235#, 48" c, 19" calf, 28" th).  
No BS. \$75 in, \$100 out.

**KEN 864-6155**

**MAX**



**931-3069**  
Callback Required

**NEW IN S.F.**

**LEATHERMAN**  
Foul Mouth, Cigar Smoking Dirt  
Dude with a Mohawk.  
Tall, Dark, Tan & Hung. \$100.  
Call Rod 558-8172

**FF, TT, B/D, TOYS**  
Gloves, kinky, Andy, husky, 5'9",  
175, blond, must. 861-2668,  
\$70. sling safe, exp.

Head—For the Best. In/out,  
Ask for B.J. \$35 252-8662

Jack is White, Mitch, Black  
**SALT & PEPPER**  
Both are Smooth, Trim, Musc.,  
Sexy Guys, Hung w/Big, Thick,  
Beautiful 8" Playthings.  
Steamy photos available.

Like to Please. Reasonable. In/out,  
hotel, MC/Visa 985-9132

**YOUNG TURK**

**HAIRY HOT EVES. DAYS**  
\$40in/50out, Sahin 864-4703

"Hot Black Stallion"  
Lance: 28, 5'11", 185lbs, of solid  
masculinity. Work out with me if  
you're looking for a bodybuilder  
with a tight body. Wake up in  
heaven. Call me! 821-3457.

**RICK IS HERE**

See the Best  
Forget the Rest  
Black Bodybuilder Available  
for Posing  
Call 252-9268

E. Bay Sensual Massage by a  
Sexy Italian Cyclist, 27, 6',  
180lbs., 8" Heath 658-2437

**CUTE & ROMANTIC**

**TEDDY BEAR**  
Hdsm & Masculine Latino  
Guy, 26, Smooth Swimmer's  
Build, 5'7", 140lbs, delicious  
buns, passionate & versatile.  
Let my hands relax  
& please you.  
**CARLOS 465-0231**  
\$50 in \$65 out 24 hrs.

**VIRILE SEXY ITALIAN**

Hot, gd/kg, rockhard muscles  
& athletic legs. Vers, healthy,  
yng, hung, tall Marine type.  
Anytime. No BS.  
Dan 753-8604

\*\*\*\*\*  
Reflecting you and  
your community.  
Bay Area Reporter.  
Weekly.  
\*\*\*\*\*

**UNCUT STUD**

**BUILT, 28YR., TAN**  
5'8", 165, 9x6 1/2  
Brn Hr, Eyes  
In/Out \$125  
CAL 944-7731

**9" STUDDUFFIN**



Cute, Young Top  
**KURT 863-4730**



**SCOTT • \$100**  
**(415) 386-7490**

1st & foremost since 1968  
SF's original "All Male"  
Model-Escort Service  
Handsome-masculine types,  
strippers (pvt., business), Blond,  
Black, Hispanic, Asian, Italian,  
European. Hot, All American  
Males. Discreet arrangements.  
Hour/day/week/book early.  
SF's Finest (415) 821-3457  
"Applicants Needed"

**Humpy Video/Mag Model**  
**MANMEAT**  
24 hrs. 252-0775 MC/Visa

Oral Ecstasy By Oral Pro  
Call Jim 995-2368

Pro Top delivery for bottoms in  
need. Hung, handsome buck.  
Mike 821-1477

In Bay Area call Brad at (415)  
647-4159 or (707) 887-9857.  
Blond/blue college guy, very oral,  
handsome, sexy, bottom. Your  
pleasure is my command, sir.  
In/out \$100. (2nd similar guy  
avail. also)

Look Like a Model?  
Call 24 hrs (415) 398-2260

**THE STALLION**  
**Bpr # 337-3985**

**YOUNG STUD**

Very Presentable 20 y.o. Boy  
160lbs., 5'11", br/gr, 8x6  
**HOTELS OK**  
24 hrs. Trevor 597-3944

**DOMINANT.**



**RANDY 864-3133**  
CALLBACK REQUIRED



# People and Personals

## MODELS & ESCORTS

**X-LONG X-THICK TOP!**  
HANDSOME WELL BUILT  
Clean Cut  
EASY GOING TOPMAN  
Vince 567-2949, \$75

Husky Built Man, 43,  
looks 30, for boys and men. Call  
me at 995-4746. I want you.  
Just \$80. EOB

Young, Handsome Student!!!  
Black, Smooth and Well-Defined!  
20 yo. 541-5040 EOB


**DADDY BEAR**  
Spankings, w/s, kink OK! Hot 38,  
6'5", 250, big balls, beard, furry,  
nice nips, \$60, call Ed  
621-6860 EOB

B&D specialties/plymr 863-6536 EOB

Swimmer with tattoo!  
**JUST DO IT**  
Dk blind, hazel eyes, 6', 165lbs.,  
get me wet/dry me off....  
Justin 861-5358 EOB

**BLACK STUD**  
Ready & Willing 821-3228 EOB

**BLOND STUD**



Ram Photo 553-8172

6'2", 180#, Blue-eyed  
Very Handsome Top  
**292-3258 • \$100** CALL  
BACK REQ.

SAN FRANCISCO'S ST  
QUALITY SERVICE

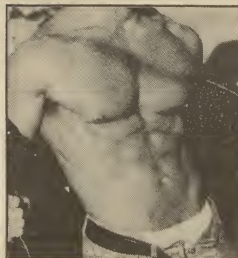
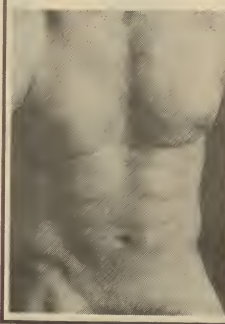
**MANDATES**  
THE AGENCY

BODYBUILDING STARS  
VIDEO STARS  
STARS IN YOUR EYES

415/567-9116

For Hungry Men  
Ass hard round hot butt  
626-RIDE EOB

**Dan 753-8604**  
— anytime —



**Ready for Action**  
Call Brad 441-3332  
— Not an Agency —

**BODY BEAUTIFUL**  
Hawaiian Hunk w/chiseled bronze  
smooth musc. 44c, 30w, 16arms,  
handsome, friendly, vers. Outcall.  
Pete 544-1114 EOB

**BOTTOM BOY FUN**  
Party or massage 821-1361 EOB

East Bay  
Sensual Swedish Massage  
\$40 in, Michael 887-6290 EOB

\$30 & up, EMS/Oster Session,  
B&D, Zolt 771-8042 EOB

24hr FFpro/Ron 863-6536 sling EOB

**BIG BOY**  
5'11" 205LB SOLID  
HANDSOME MASCULINE  
CLEANCUT 27YO  
NOT LIKE THE REST  
**MIKE 621-9857** EOB

**HUNG STUD**  
Thick and Big  
GUS (415) 469-7221

**HOT TOP FOR HIRE**  
very sexy boy  
michael, 474-0513  
23, 9", 24 hours EOB

Washbrd abs, super-defined  
**ROCK HARD!**  
5'11", 160# of tan, silky smooth,  
pure lean muscle. Yng, 9x6 stud.  
Kyle 541-5610 EOB

Sexy blond jock with wshbrd abs  
& incredible pecs. 26yrs, 5'9",  
155lbs, 8" c, tanned, masculine &  
very handsome, \$80in/\$100out.  
Brandon 864-0788 EOB



**Wholesome Hunk**  
"Makes a Body feel good"  
6'2", 190#, blond/blue, 25yo,  
8.5", clean cut, runners build  
James \$100 928-5155

**HUNKY SWED**  
Handsome, Hung, Tall, Big Balls,  
24hrs, Axel 863-0252 EOB

**Hot Stud**  
Hung 9"  
and Hot  
—24 hrs.—  
775-4771

**ITALIAN DADDY**  
Hung and Hairy  
239-8419

**BONDAGE & DISCIPLINE**  
S/M Domination Etc.  
24 yr. old Master  
Smooth Skin  
Well Built/Will Train  
**648-7260, KEN**

Fist on a good man 928-7572 EOB

Sexy Blond  
**CALVIN KLEIN**  
Model, 26yrs, 9", thick,  
round buns, rock-solid  
864-0788 Ryan EOB

**STUD**  
Butch • Built •  
Hung • Tattoos  
• Beard • Cigars  
**CORY**  
**928-7572**

**LONGXXXTHICK**  
Healthy, clean and sober, 30 yrs.  
9'x7", extremely handsome,  
very sexy man for hire.  
Perfect Top, \$100in/\$125out  
**ROD 864-4010**

**Bi Jock**



Call Back Required  
In/Out \$100

**Skip 821-7818**

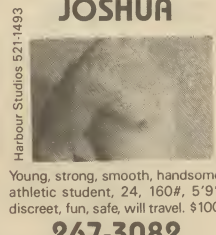
Smooth & slim — 21 & cute  
• **FUN BOY** •  
Dave 864-0670 EOB

Hot, yng, boyishly handsome  
good looks David 563-5637. EOB

Expert tit work by 40 yr. old  
Leatherman/bootman, 6', 195lbs,  
Bart 235-3813, out. EOB

**HUNG LIKE A HORSE**  
Ital. Stallion br/br 5'8"  
fat tool-stud looks-built.  
Jonny \$80, 567-2949 EOB

**JOSHUA**



Young, strong, smooth, handsome,  
athletic student, 24, 160#, 5'9",  
discreet, fun, safe, will travel. \$100.  
**267-3082**

**ALL-AMERICAN**  
Handsome 25 yo. Bodybuilder  
brn/blue, 200+ ", 48 "c,  
32 "w, 18 "a, Friendly.  
Description guaranteed.  
**KODI 821-2561**



**DOMINANT**  
**YOUNG LATINO**

Will teach you  
Obedience, B&D, C&B,  
Verbally Abuse,  
Humiliate You.  
Cum meat your master.

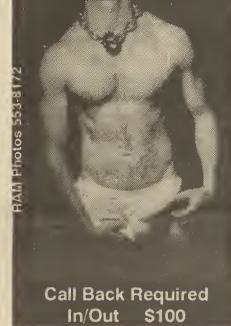
**Rick 921-STUD**

Studfinders Models 541-5000  
Roster of Men 995-4664 EOB

Two Hot Tops  
Tony 25 yo., gymtoned and  
Scott 26 yo., great body.  
call 550-0833 EOB

**BIGGER IS BETTER**  
Sexy young stud, 27  
loves to please  
• Big/Overweight Men •  
into all fantasies!  
**Jim 441-3131**

**VIC 804-8780**  
Top Delivery



**TALL BLACK STUD**  
You want it big. You want it black.  
You want it long & hard.  
Call Marshall  
266-8259 EOB

Young Hung Hot 19 yr old.  
Very Hot Looking to Please  
call Billy  
241-9611 EOB

**REDHEAD**  
5'10", 145lbs, clean & safe. Aims  
to please, after 6 p.m. weekdays,  
anytime weekends. call Taylor at  
826-5236  
\$100 in/out, callback req. EOB

**"PASSION!"**



9' Sexy, Hot-Looking  
Passionate Guy  
Call 775-4771 24hrs.

**All American Boy**  
San Francisco  
David 563-5637

**VERSATILE YOUNG STUD**  
**DAGEN**

Tough & Tender, 6ft. blond  
slim smooth sexy student. Hot  
healthy butt boy w/toys &  
playroom. Buddy Brad avail. for  
3-way in-out \$100.  
647-4159 EOB

Handsome guy next door  
Tim: 26, 6', 175lbs, 42" c, 30" w,  
brown hair, green eyes, ready.  
24hrs, call 626-3118 EOB

Submissive Spanking Games  
Fantasies. Randy 252-8662 EOB

**"WHITE MEN AND BOYS!"**  
You are my business! Sexy Mulat-  
to Guy 9" light-skinned. call:  
775-4771, 24hrs. EOB

**ORAL DELIGHT!**  
Cliff 252-5645, \$30. EOB

Spankings! Jim 255-8539 EOB

Hairy bearded well/hung man for  
hire Steve 38 6'2" 185,  
431-5974 in or out. EOB



**Derek**  
Mandates 567-9116

**BODY BEAUTIFUL**  
Hawaiian Hunk w/Chiseled  
Bronze smooth musc. 44c, 30w,  
16" arms. Handsome, friendly,  
vers. outcall. Pete 544-1114 EOB

SF's 1st Callbear! Bearded, Belly,  
Hairy Daddy 995-4754 EOB

**VERY HNDSM YNG MAN**  
Gives erotic full body hot oil  
massage in the nude. I am nice,  
discreet & safe.  
Call Clay 346-2543 EOB

Hot boy looks 18. Erotic  
Dancer, centerfold from  
Kanas. Sexy hot bottom.  
Call Todd 995-4745 EOB

**24 HOUR DADDY**  
Tall, Hairy, Big Hangers  
Chad 861-7014 EOB

Man with a belt 928-7572. EOB

X-Army Sgt 6'4", 195#, hairy,  
handsome. Chuck 431-1579. EOB

**VERY MASCULINE**  
**VERY MUSCULAR**  
**VERY BLACK TOP**  
offers bottoms the door  
to their deepest fantasies  
.... It's time to meet them.  
**JAMES 534-0982**



# Bay Area Reporter BAZAAR

MR. MARCUS

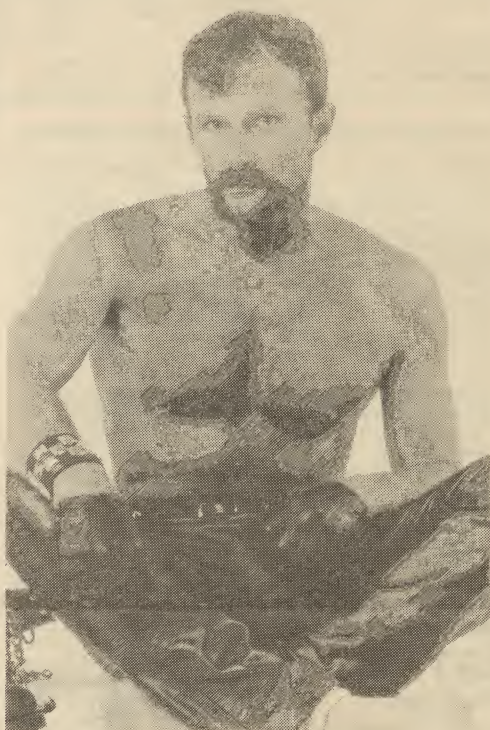
## When Pride Is Not A Capital Sin

Down through the centuries, religious doctrines have dictated that there are seven deadly/capital sins, the first being pride. In some respects, pride, like anything else done to excess, can be detrimental to an individual or a group. We've all seen it again and again.

But in these trying times, for many of us, there are occasions when we feel helpless, disillusioned, deserted and hopeless. During this terrible AIDS crisis, I too have felt that way when I see my brothers and sisters leaving us bereft of their talent, wit, humor, friendship and love. But then, along comes an idea, a project or an inspiration that rescues us from our lowest emotional depths.

With this thought in mind, it was inspiring to see pride on parade this past weekend. Not the kind of pride that is often overdone or brash, but pride that is generated from accomplishing something worthwhile, caring and beneficial.

When I heard the news of the death of former Mr. San Francisco Leather Peter Austin last Wednesday, I was seized with a helplessness and a grief that I am sure many of you have experienced. After awhile, I suddenly felt a great feeling of satisfaction from having known this man who did so much in his 36 years on this earth. Peter is the kind of guy I think of when I expound at length on leather pride. Like few before him, he carried his title with dignity, charisma and, yes, pride. Pride in making a spot on the bare chest calendar, pride in being chosen to be on the cover, pride in winning the Mr. SF Eagle Leather title and pride in winning the Mr. Leather of SF title.



Peter Austin, former Mr. Leather of San Francisco and an exemplary man of leather pride. (Photo: Jim Wigler)

Whereas some winners do nothing with their titles, Peter involved himself whenever asked to help with a fundraising effort. They are too numerous to list here, but there were many. He even inspired friends to help him with his own fundraising. He traveled to Chicago where he was well received at International Mr. Leather and was one of the

semi-finalists, an accomplishment in itself when facing some 40 to 50 other hot contestants. He traveled to Australia where he was an instant celebrity and rode in a position of honor in their gay pride parade and hosted a fundraiser there. His stunning good looks, pleasant personality and his teamwork acumen endeared him to

(Continued on next page)



AIDS Emergency Fund Honorary Co-chairs Jo-Carol and Tom Ammiano at the kickoff dinner. (Photo: Marcus)

**A TASTE OF LEATHER**  
**RUSH - BOLT**  
**HARDWARE**  
**SALE - \$3!!!**  
315 - 10TH STREET (AT FOLSOM)

**CHEZ MOLLET**  
25 YEARS SERVING SAN FRANCISCO  
Dinner Nightly 5:30-11  
Brunch on the Garden Patio  
Saturdays, Sundays & Holidays 10:30-3  
Sunday, Monday, Tuesday  
**Prime Rib**  
Dinner, Soup or Salad  
**\$10.95**  
Reservations Recommended  
**(415) 495-4527**  
Banquet Room Available for Up to 100  
SPECIAL ATTENTION GIVEN TO BIRTHDAY PARTIES  
527 Bryant St. (between 3rd & 4th Sts.)  
WHERE PARKING IS A BLESSING

**FIND BETTER TIMES**  
**A MAN'S PRIVATE J/O ARENA**  
**1808 CLUB**  
(JACKING OFF ONLY)  
★ Take part with the Safe Playing Guys at the cleanest club in town. Attended by the friendliest staff.  
Imagine your favorite type of sex partner — hot, hard and hung — in his birthday suit. Well, imagine or come see for yourself where all the hot men traveling around the country stop while in SF.  
**NOTE:** 1808 is a private club for J/O artists and includes the body-conscious man, Washboard stomachs, masculine looks, etc. We have a full clothes check system. Great videos and music nightly.  
— 1808 MARKET STREET —  
★ **DON'T COME LATE**  
We have carefully developed the early bird crowd.  
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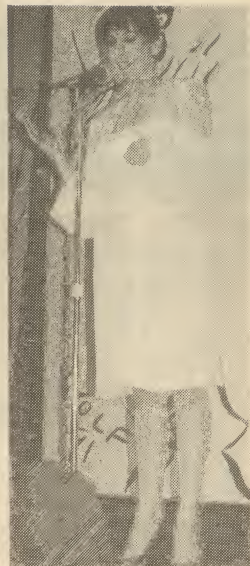
South of Market's (l. to r.) Terry Thompson of the Eagle and Doug Deal of Mister S were honored for their work on behalf of the AIDS Emergency Fund in 1990.

(Photo: Marcus)



Tim and Glenn (left) reacted hilariously at Samantha Samuels' description of her first visit to an Eagle beer bust/auction.

(Photo: Marcus)



## Marcus

(Continued from previous page)

many. Always calm. Always in control. Always confident. Those who berated him didn't realize how much the community loved Peter and how they were disgusted with the jealousy that often engulfs do-nothings and malcontents. They know who they are.

I do not often dwell on the deaths of my leather brothers. And I do not forget them ever, no matter what conflicts we may have had. Yes, it does happen. For me, it is heart wrenching to attend memorial services. Due to a commitment I made back in November, I will not be here this Saturday, Feb. 23, for the celebration of Peter Austin's life, certainly an ex-

emplary one. The hour is 1700 at the Neptune Society Columbarium. His ashes will be scattered in the waters of both the Atlantic and the Pacific. I grieve for his family and all those who loved him. I loved Peter and his dedication to leather pride. I hope all of you who loved and admired Peter will be there. I am guilty of pride in him and ask no one's forgiveness; for me it was not a sin to be proud of him.

The second time I felt a great surge of pride was this past Saturday night at the AIDS Emergency Fund's annual kick-off dinner at the Grand Hyatt. Again, many people were honored for their fundraising, dedication and volunteerism on behalf of all those who need help.

Again, leather people and non-leather people were given the highest accolades for their efforts. Some of the recipients were shaken to the point of candidly expressing their surprise for the glory heaped upon them; after all, many explained, they did it because they felt the need, they felt the love and they tried to do what they thought was right.

Many were astounded by the success of their endeavors. One man exclaimed when he received his plaque: "What is this for? I felt I had to do something. Why should I receive this?" Why does anyone do anything to help those in need? Whatever the reason, the motivation, the drive, or the inspiration, thank God for all of them. And even better, almost

everyone admitted they only had the idea — their friends helped them carry out the scheme. And that's what love, brotherhood, sisterhood, charisma and caring is all about. Thank God for our community. Thank God for pride, be it leather, drag or anything else. I am convinced that for us, pride is not a sin. Collectively, we should all feel it whenever our brothers and sisters succeed in their brotherly and sisterly endeavors and especially when it benefits others.

**O**n a lighter note, the outlook for action in the next few days looks real good, so here's a few activities that might make this weekend and succeeding ones a little brighter:

**Thursday, Feb. 21:** Looking for Mr. April '92 on the Eagle's Bare Chest Calendar tonight. The winner takes home \$100. B.A.R. A&E Editor Danny Mangin, Joe Fiorentino, Andrew Pear and Mitch Johnson will share judging duties when the action begins at 2200.

**Friday, Feb. 22:** Mr. New Mexico Drummer Contest in Albuquerque, with festivities beginning tonight at Cuffs upstairs at The Ranch Bar and continuing through Sunday, Feb. 24. Lots of people from Our Town will be there and Darrell Yarborough who is heavily involved with the event is ecstatic with all the hoopla surrounding it. If Jimmy Middlehurst misbehaves, you'll be

the first to know it!

**Saturday, Feb. 23:** Big benefit auction at the Eagle tonight for Mark I. Chester, Alan Selby and Mistress Carol all of whom suffered losses because of the fire at My Place a couple of weeks ago. Lots of items have been donated already and they'll be auctioned off at the Eagle beginning at 2000. Hope you'll all be there.

**Bondage Buddies** party from 2100 to benefit Mark I. Chester. Doors open until 0100 for only \$10. Call 292-3228 for more information.

If you find yourself in Portland, Ore., tonight, you might catch the Portland Leatherman and Leatherwoman contest at the Melody Lane Ballroom (610 SE Alder St.) beginning at 2000. Tickets are \$6, and the affair is sponsored by ORGASM. The winners will compete at Intl. Mr. Leather and Intl. Ms. Leather, respectively, later on this year.

**Coronation of the emperor and empress of San Francisco** tonight. Did you vote last weekend? We're almost sure who might be the empress, but three men are vying for the emperor title and the campaigning last Saturday was heavy and intense.

**Sunday, Feb. 24:** GLAAD (Gay/Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation) steps out with their first beer/soda bust at the Eagle today from 1500-1800. The Cream Sisters, Tom Amiano and lots of surprises including Jai Jai Noire, Claudia Page, Kate Aragon and Ursula

## PETER JAMES AUSTIN

December 6, 1955 to February 13, 1991

Peter James Austin died at 2 a.m., Wednesday, Feb. 13, on the 5th floor of Mount Zion Hospital after a 21-month struggle with AIDS. Both his mother, Mildred Austin, and his lover of three years, Ken McMullen, were at his side. He died as he wanted to, without pain, quickly, and in full control.

Peter was born in the Thousand Island area of Upstate New York, and spent his first few years of life between the beaches of the St. Lawrence River and the beaches of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

He graduated from Upstate Medical Center at S.U.N.Y. at Syracuse, N.Y., in 1978 with a degree in Respiratory Therapy and the Humanities. He moved to the Peninsula area of SF in August 1978 working as a Respiratory Care Practitioner at Stanford Hospital, Palo Alto. Peter met fellow Sagittarian and life partner, Charles David Mast, in San Francisco and they took up residence together in 1978 in the Noe Valley district of SF. Mr. Mast passed away in May 1990.

Professionally, Peter began working at Seton Medical Center, Daly City, in the Respiratory Care Services Department. In 1981 he became a supervisor of the Respiratory Care Department at Children's Hospital, Oakland, where he became Manager of the Pulmonary Function Lab in 1986. He remained there as manager until his medical retirement.

In San Francisco, Peter enjoyed the various aspects of the Bay Area outdoors. Frequent trips to the Russian River, Lake Tahoe, San Gregorio, San Diego and Palm Springs would occupy his time when he was not attending local music and dance events. Eventually, he discovered South of Market. During his explorations of the leather scene he would meet the man to accompany him out of the

'80s and into the '90s, his lover, Ken McMullen.

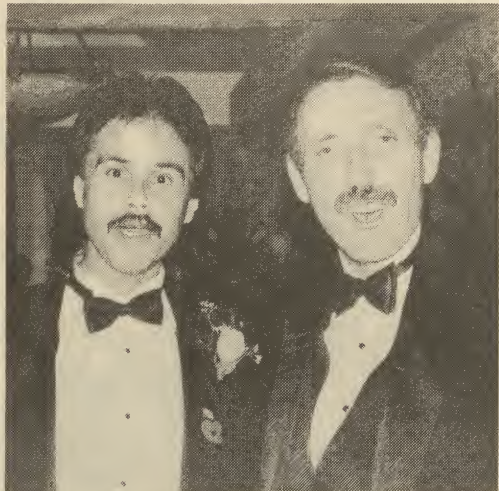
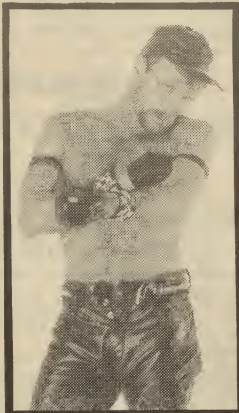
Peter also enjoyed photography, at both ends of the camera. After competing for the AIDS Emergency Fund's Eagle Bare Chest Calendar he won the cover spot and graced the cover for 1989. That same year he competed for and won the title of Mr. Eagle Leather '89. The momentum continued as he then competed for and won the title of Mr. San Francisco Leather 1989. He would compete internationally that year in Chicago one week after receiving his AIDS diagnosis.

As Mr. San Francisco Leather 1989, he was active in multiple fundraising events for AIDS charities in the Bay Area. Through videotape and photographs he made his presence felt in San Francisco and other locales. Peter represented San Francisco at the International Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras in Sydney, Australia.

Shortly before retiring his title he became a founding board member of SMMILE (South of Market Merchants' and Lifestyle Events). SMMILE produces the UP YOUR ALLEY STREET FAIR and the FOLSOM STREET FAIR.

He is survived by his mother, Mildred Austin, of Barefoot Bay, Fla.; three older sisters in New York and Pennsylvania; one younger brother in Indiana; and his lover, Ken McMullen of San Francisco.

A memorial service will be held at the Neptune Society Columbarium, Saturday, Feb. 23, at 5 p.m. Peter's ashes will return to the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans with scatterings off the Golden Gate Bridge and the Thousand Islands Bridge on the New York-Canada border. Peter had said, "Those wishing to honor my memory are sincerely requested to do nothing of a religious or otherwise trivial nature but instead to make a donation to the AIDS organization of their choice."



David Lugo (l.) AIDS Emergency Fund Volunteer of the Year with Terry Thompson, both honored at the kickoff dinner last Saturday night.

(Photo: Marcus)





San Franciscans costumed as Whistler's Mothers won 2nd place at the Bourbon Street Awards at Mardi Gras last week.



GLAAD volunteer model Robb poses in a body harness donated by Mercury Mail Order as a door prize at the Eagle beer bust Sunday, Feb. 24.

(Photo: Marcus)

Specks, also known as the Lesbian Snake Charmers. It will be festive! Leather door prizes and wave upon wave of cruising. GLAAD needs your support, so come on down and join the heavy duty cruisers. You will not be disappointed.

Joe DiSalvo wants you all to know that thousands of bikers will meet in Sacramento at noon today at the Capitol building to protest Assembly Bill 7, the mandatory helmet law (for motorcyclists).

Sponsored by ABATE of the East Bay the protest of the bill (which is expected to pass) is seen as a protection against head injuries but political considerations in areas of recreational pursuits could lead to even more restrictions in other areas of leisure activities, despite soaring insurance coverage for recreational vehicles.

**Other Notable Dates:** Golden Gate Guards annual Yosemite Park Run departs Friday, March 1, at 1800 via chartered bus from the Mint with a side trip to Fresno. The \$135 fee includes transportation, box lunch, park fees, cocktail party, dinner and lodging, breakfast on Sunday before touring the park. For more info, call 563-3142.

**Weekend of March 7-10:** All this and heaven too: Leatherfest in San Diego; Mr. and Ms. Southeast Leather weekend in Atlanta; New York GMSMA's 10th Anniversary in the Big Apple. More details on all three functions next week.

#### The Spoon Runs Away With the Dish

**N**eed I tell you a lot of our guys were in New Orleans last week for Mardi Gras? Terry Thompson and Mark Abramson were among the hordes who partied till they dropped. Bud Smith and Al Kohner made the rounds of all the various costume balls and won a second-place prize at the Bourbon Street Awards with their gang of seven — Whistler's Mothers!

I'd like to tell you about the New Orleans Lords of Leather Ball, but unless I receive something official from them, I dare not say a word. Eyewitness reports from people who did attend say there were "around 2000" people there, but don't (heaven forbid!) quote me. I did receive a photo of the new King of Leather, but without their permission, I can't print it or they'll sue me! Like I said before, the Lords of Leather is big — real big — in New Orleans. Also big and popular in

New Orleans — the Second Skin leather store on St. Peter Street and Petunia's Restaurant was rated number one by every San Franciscan who dined there. One of these days I'll make it there.

Just what we need: another rip-off. Last fall, a female who claimed she was a close relative of the departed and much admired Empress VII

Jonni, prevailed upon me, certain title holders and businessmen to help her publish a 1992 beefcake calendar to benefit AIDS agencies. Like always, many — thinking they were doing the right thing for a good cause — submitted to being photographed in the patio of a Castro St. restaurant. Money was collected from gen-

(Continued on next page)

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## Marcus

(Continued from previous page)

erous businessmen in the Castro and other areas to defray printing and other costs. Result: No calendar. Karen Valle has disappeared and people are howling all over the place. And were there innocent and/or willing accomplices to this scheme? The law will prevail. This is the second straight woman who has ripped off this community — and all in the same year! Cute.

I don't know why they're asking me, a resident of SF, but all the queens in Oakland are asking what happened to Big Mama's Bar. It just suddenly closed about two weeks ago. No scandal here, but people are asking. As I said before: Where is Nez Pas when we need him??

And speaking of the demise of bars, San Jose's only leather bar, The Heat, closed unexpectedly too a couple of weeks ago, throwing people out of work who are not at all amused. Whether it will reopen or not is a decision that was not forthcoming as of my deadline.

And speaking of San Jose, the South Bay Leather/Uniform Group, also known as SLUG and the new spinoff of that group, Leathering, met last week to air their grievances under the guidance of a luminary at the Billy de Frank Center. I have talked with many individual members of SLUG and they are not at all amused with a certain pair who have more or less "taken over" the group's business with questionable charges for printing and other services they provide. Is there another scandal brewing here?

Where do these people come from and why don't they leave town on their own — or would they prefer a police escort to the local pen?

★ ★ ★

Hey, I'll be in Albuquerque this weekend judging the first Mr. Drummer of New Mexico contest but I'll be back in time for the GLAAD beer bust at the Eagle. Until then, keep living, loving, laughing and don't get ripped off!! Do it in leather and whistle while you lurk!

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  - Spirituality in the marketplace — applying spiritual principles in our daily lives and jobs.
  - Laws of mind and levels of mind — The study of spiritual psychology.
  - The nature of ego — its structure and how to transcend it.
  - The nature of Ultimate Reality — how to directly experience our essential nature.
- Class meets for eight consecutive Thursday evenings from 7:30 to 9:30, March 21 to May 9, 1991. Tuition for the class is \$200. For further information regarding SILENT WAY programs, call 386-6753

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